



A Weekly Journal of the Chemical and Drug Trades
and of
British Pharmacists throughout the Empire,
ESTABLISHED 1859.

The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is the leading journal addressing the chemical and drug trades of the British Empire. It is adopted as an official journal by nineteen Chemists' Societies in Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa and the West Indies, and its paid-in-advance circulation in Great Britain and all Countries having business relations with the British Empire is intrinsically and numerically unique.

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CONTENTS: Vol. LXXX., No. 5 (Series No. 1671).

[The folios in this List and in the Summary are those at the top of the pages, but references in the Text are to the Index folios at the bottom of the pages.]

	PAGE		PAGE
Bankruptcy Report	44	Gazette	45
Births	57	Information Department	46
Books, New	50	Irish News	36
British Pharmaceutical		Legal Reports	38
Conference	53	Liverpool Chemists' Association	46
Business Changes	57	Marriages	57
Companies	45	Observations and Reflections	47
Correspondence:		Opium Convention	51
Letters	62	Personalities	58
Subscribers' Symposium	62	Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain:	
Dispensing Notes	63	North British Branch	53
Legal Queries	63	Poisonings	37
Miscellaneous Inquiries	64	Private Meeting	44
Deaths	57	Retrospect	64
Deed of Arrangement	44	Scottish News	36
Editorial Articles:		Trade Notes	58
The Opium Convention	48	Trade Report	59
National Insurance Act	49	Wills	57
Notes	50	Winter Session	54
English and Welsh News	34		
French News	36		

In the Coloured Supplement.

Cardiff Pharmaceutical Association.	Pharmaceutical Formulas.
Coming Events.	South African News.
Patents.	Trade-marks.
	Whist-drives.

CULTIVATING EXPORT TRADE.

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THE EXPORT MERCHANT SHIPPERS' ISSUE

OF

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

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SUMMARY OF THIS ISSUE.

The more notable items only are dealt with.

Opium Convention.

The International Conference at The Hague regarding the preparation and sale of opium, morphine, cocaine, and allied narcotic drugs has been concluded.

We give the complete text of the Convention which has been arrived at, and which will have indirect influence upon the practice of pharmacy in all parts of the civilised world, and impose limitations upon certain branches of chemical industry (p. 51).

We comment upon the general nature of the Convention, and its bearings upon commerce and industry (p. 48).

Articles and Communications.

The revised Ships' Medical Scales have now been issued by the Board of Trade, and are referred to on p. 50.

Why does lavender oil improve on keeping? This is the subject of an investigation by Messrs. Brewis and Umney noted on p. 50.

Our Winter Issue seems to have given much satisfaction (pp. 47 and 62). We regret that a snowstorm in the Midlands delayed delivery in some cases (p. 34).

The Joint Committee of Insurance Act Commissioners has invited medical authorities to a conference this week in regard to the appointment of medical representatives on the Advisory Committee. The authorities are declining (p. 49).

It is felt by pharmacists in Scotland that a Pharmaceutical Committee to deal with Insurance Act matters should be appointed distinct from the Pharmaceutical Society. The terms of resolutions on the subject will be found on pp. 53, 54, and 55, while a member of the North British Branch Executive throws further light on the subject (p. 62). We point out the importance of unity of action by chemists in England, Scotland, and Wales through one representative committee, with sub-committees for distinct parts (p. 49).

News of the Week.

An interesting decision in regard to Port of London dock dues is reported on p. 38.

Whist-drives are reported in our Coloured Supplement with other items of news.

Another Census of Production in the United Kingdom will be taken in 1913 (p. 34).

We report more fully than last week the hearing of the Junora wine case, which is rather important (p. 39).

A small revolution has occurred in the Liverpool Chemists' Association, three new and young members being elected to the Council (pp. 35 and 46).

The poisoning cases this week are exceptionally interesting, the sale of laudanum by two companies being the chief topic before coroners' juries (p. 37).

Sir Edward Evans spoke at Hanley on the National Insurance Act, commending doctors and chemists to be circumspect in their action respecting medical benefit provisions (p. 56).

The present activity of Excise officers in regard to the Medicine Stamp Acts is noteworthy. Chemists who had not renewed their licences have been prosecuted, and other vendors for selling unstamped articles (p. 38).

The Capsuloids case is still proceeding in the London High Court. Mr. Salter, K.C., has opened the defence, and evidence has been given by Mr. Proctor Atkinson, Dr. Inglis Clark, and Dr. F. W. Passmore. It throws interesting light on capsule-making (p. 183).

The English Court of Appeal on February 1 gave judgment for the defendants in the cases of the Vidal Syndicate, Ltd., v. Levinstein, Ltd., and the same plaintiffs v. Read Holliday & Sons, Ltd., reversing the decision of Mr. Justice Parker to the effect that the defendants had infringed the patents for Vidal dyes. We hope to report the judgments next week.

Trade and Market Matters.

The chief movements in the markets comprise an advance in quicksilver and lower prices for cream of tartar. Santonin may again advance. Minor changes include easier rates for copper sulphate, cocaine, serpentary, cloves, and shellac. Bergamot oil looks like being excessively scarce this season (p. 59).

ENGLISH AND WELSH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Proivities.

Dr. William Collingridge, the medical officer for the City of London, is retiring after holding the office for twenty-one years.

No. 1 of the "Kew Bulletin" for 1912 contains a lengthy obituary notice of Sir Joseph Dalton Hooker. The list of the great botanist's works covers sixteen pages.

Much sympathy has been expressed with Mr. J. B. Shattock, chemist, Prospect Street, Lancaster, Secretary of the Lancaster Chemists' Association, in the death of his wife, which took place, as the result of a painful malady, on January 30.

A "London Gazette" notice states that an order was made on January 26, 1912, restoring the Letters Patent granted to Ludwig Sensburg for an invention for "Method of manufacture of catechu preparations which do not stain the teeth" (19148 of 1906).

Mr. Frederic G. Hallett, Secretary to the Examining Board of the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, leaves London this week for the United States in order to attend a conference on medical education to be held in Chicago on February 26. Mr. Hallett will address that meeting on the Conjoint Board's methods of conducting medical examinations.

In order to celebrate his third year as Mayor of St. Helens, Sir Joseph Beecham has arranged for the transfer of "The Golden Land of Fairy Tales," after the final performance at the Aldwych Theatre, London, to the Opera House, St. Helens. It is expected that 20,000 children will be Sir Joseph's guests during the performances. It is estimated that the cost of the treat will be over 2,000/.

We noted recently that the Spectacle-makers' Company do not intend to embark on a new optical legislation campaign. "The Optician" printed in the issue for January 26 details of the formation of the General Board of Opticians and the text of the Bill which was introduced into the House of Lords in 1904. The experience gained at that time convinced the Company that the time was not ripe for legislation.

The Portsmouth Health Committee on January 23 discussed the mechanical details in connection with the scheme for making electrolytic disinfecting fluid. It is proposed to erect a plant, costing about 1,000/., in a shed in the Anglesey Road depot, taking sea-water from the main which supplies the baths. It is estimated that the saving on the bill for disinfectants will pay for the new plant in a year and a-half.

At a meeting of the Advisory Committee to the Board of Trade on Commercial Intelligence held at 7 Whitehall Gardens on Thursday, January 25, it was reported that the number of inquiries received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch (75 Basinghall Street, E.C.) during 1911 was 16,987, as compared with 14,839 in 1910; and that the number of firms on the special register at the end of the year was 1535. Among the matters considered by the Committee were proposals for the promotion of British trade with Central America and with the Crown Colonies, and the steps now being taken by the Board of Trade for the collection and exhibition of samples of certain classes of foreign goods competing with British manufactures in the self-governing Dominions.

The prosecution of "Doctor" Bowell, of Hunslet (*C. & D.*, January 27, p. 114), has aroused considerable interest in that locality, the public sympathy taking the form of a committee to receive subscriptions for relieving Mr. Bowell from the embarrassment which it is felt will follow the prosecution. A demonstrative public meeting was held at the Temperance Hall, Hunslet, on January 29, when it was announced that nearly 100/ had been collected during the evening. The Chairman (Mr. G. B. Newton) said the local medical men had not interfered with Mr. Bowell because they honoured his sterling work. It was suggested that Mr. Bowell should be granted an "acting

diploma," if the law permitted it. Officials to the subscription fund were afterwards elected.

"C. & D." Winter Issue.

In consequence of the heavy snowstorm which occurred in the Midland district and Lancashire on Friday, January 26, the trains conveying the Winter Issue of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* to our subscribers in Birmingham, Liverpool, and Manchester were much delayed, and our forwarding agents, the Globe Express, Ltd., express to us their regret they were unable to complete the delivery in several cases until Monday morning.

Poison-scheduling.

Mr. Richard Bremridge, Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society, has been interviewed by the "Pall Mall Gazette" in regard to the Society's position *re* the sale of dangerous drugs. He said that the law requires strengthening. As to what should be done to get that, he said:

"A sufficient body of public opinion should be formed, and then an appeal direct to the Privy Council would probably lead to a successful issue. There are at present a very large and increasing number of dangerous drugs being freely sold that ought to be scheduled, but trade interests in many of them are very strong, and unless public action is taken very little can or will be done."

The "Pall Mall Gazette" concludes that the scheduling of dangerous drugs under the Pharmacy Act is becoming imperative.

Second Census of Production.

A second Census of Production is to be taken in the year 1913, particulars of which will relate to 1912. A General Advisory Committee has been appointed by the Board of Trade, which consists of the following: Sir Hugh Bell, Sir Charles Macara, Sir T. Ratcliffe-Ellis, Messrs. J. H. C. Crockett, B. Harmer, W. H. Mitchell, J. P. Alexander Siemens, and J. W. White. Mr. G. A. G. Stanley will act as Secretary to the Committee. The functions of the Committee are to advise the Board in the preparation of the forms and instructions necessary for the taking of the census and in making any rules under the Act. It is intended to proceed at once with the preparation of the schedules, which will be communicated to trade associations, chambers of commerce, etc.

Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture.

At a meeting of the Council held at the Surveyors' Institute, Storey's Gate, Westminster, on January 30, Mr. Gardner, Worcester, proposed the approval of the Sales for Agricultural Purposes Bill as amended by the House of Lords, in accordance with the report of the Select Committee to which it was referred. He remarked that the two main principles for which the Council contended were extension of the time limit for taking samples and abolition of the veto of the Board of Agriculture on prosecutions for offences under the Fertilisers and Feeding-stuffs Act. These were embodied in the Bill, which would thereby be made more beneficial for the protection of agriculturists. The Council had proposed that it should contain a clause giving County Councils power to publish the names of the vendors of articles which were, on analysis, found to be unsatisfactory. The Select Committee, however, regarded the proposal as imposing too heavy a penalty on those who might have been guilty of a slight error of judgment, and accordingly objected to the clause. The Council also asked that the Bill should provide for particulars of showing the composition of some foods so that customers of traders should know the proportion of digestible carbohydrates these contain. Unfortunately, owing to the limited knowledge of chemists of the present day, it appeared that the term "digestible" was a relative one, and that it was impossible to arrive accurately at its meaning. Consequently the word "digestible" was eliminated, and "soluble" was substituted before the word carbohydrates. The proposition was unanimously agreed to. A resolution was also adopted asking the Board of Agriculture to request the appointment of a Departmental Committee to inquire into the nature of Johne's disease, which affects the lining of the intestines of cattle, causing diarrhoea and wasting. The disease is usually fatal, and no cure has yet been discovered.

Birmingham Notes.

At a charitable *matinée* held at the Grand Theatre on January 27, Messrs. Needhams sent perfumes which were sold to the audience for "the good of the cause."

The Birmingham Dog Show at Bingley Hall attracted many votaries among pharmacy. Those of them who deal largely in canine medicines had an excellent time, for the "show" was a record one.

A mystic medicine man descants with an American twang near the Nelson Column, Bull Ring, upon the remedies he has for sale. In the background he has a huge revolving globe with the countries marked where his wonder-working products are collected.

Liverpool Notes.

The Liverpool chemists' students' hot-pot supper is likely to be a huge success, as Mr. Harold Wyatt has promised to preside.

The spell of cold weather has made local chemists very busy, and most of them are making bold shows of proprietary cough-mixtures, cod-liver oil emulsion, chest protectors, and other seasonable winter lines.

Three of the four new candidates for seats on the Council of the Liverpool Chemists' Association have been returned—namely, Mr. L. Moreton Parry, who stood second on the poll, Mr. W. F. Laycock, who was third, and Mr.



MR. HAWLEY.



MR. PARRY.



MR. LAYCOCK.

J. W. Hawley, who was fourth. Of the four retiring Councillors two only were re-elected—namely, Dr. Charles Symes, who headed the poll, and Mr. Prosper Marsden. Mr. Parry passed his Minor examination in July 1894, and is in business at 163 Oakfield Road, Liverpool. He is a progressive pharmacist, well gifted with Welsh eloquence, and is acquainted with Mr. Bonar Law, leader of the Unionist party, a circumstance which was of service to the Pharmaceutical Society when Mr. Bonar Law's assistance was asked by unqualified chemists at the time the National Insurance Bill was going through the House of Commons. Mr. Laycock was formerly senior dispenser in Messrs. Clay & Abraham's pharmacy, Bold Street, and was for fourteen years manager to the late Mr. R. G. Smith, whose business at 157 Earle Road, Liverpool, he purchased. Mr. John W. Hawley passed the Minor examination in October 1896, and his pharmacy is at Aighburth Road, Liverpool. In his election address he stated that he has been twenty-three years in South Liverpool, and would "like to see the meetings made of more real interest to us from a business point of view, and think that the scientific tendency so prominent in past years might safely be put aside occasionally and the meetings become a source of help and encouragement to us in our everyday working life."

Manchester Notes.

At the quarterly meeting of the Manchester City Justices a circular was read from the Home Office calling attention to the small and inadequate penalties which were imposed for offences under the Food and Drugs Acts. A resolution was passed requesting that the Justices should give special consideration to the provisions of the Acts in question.

A goodly number of pharmacists is expected at the meeting convened by the officials of the Pharmaceutical Society on January 31. Owing to the cause through which the last meeting of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association had to be cancelled, the Council of the Association has decided to take no part in the meeting. It is

a case of "wait and see," and there is a decided piquancy about the whole affair. (See report, index folio 196.)

The Shops Act is creating a stir in the Retail Traders' Association in Manchester. Over 10,000 coupons have been sent out to the people who petitioned the Home Office and the City Council against the half-day closing. One of their officials states: "All we are asking is that shops in a small area about the centre of the city shall not be compelled to close, as it would be disastrous to traders (which, of course, includes chemists). The assistants will have their half-holiday as a matter of course."

Guardians' Doings.

The Cheltenham Guardians on January 26 decided to ask Mr. W. H. Hill, chemist and druggist, High Street, Cheltenham, to dispense medicines for the indoor officers and servants during the ensuing six months. The arrangement is the outcome of the Workhouse dispenser pointing out that he was not legally responsible for dispensing officials' prescriptions. It was stated that when the Insurance Act comes into operation other arrangements will have to be made.

The Westbury Guardians were presented on January 24 with a return showing the cost of drugs used at the Workhouse during 1909 to be 32*l.* 15*s.*; in 1910, 31*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.*; and in 1911, 30*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.* A Guardian asked for an explanation for the amount of 17*l.* for drugs during the last quarter. The Clerk stated that extra medical fees went into the same account as drugs, and that the actual cost of drugs last quarter was only 6*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.* This being considered satisfactory, no action was taken in the matter.

Contracts.

Bexley Urban Council.—The Sanitas Co., Ltd., for disinfectants.

Barnstaple Town Council.—During the consideration on January 24 of tenders from local chemists for disinfectants, Councillor Perrin asked that, within the Mayor's discretion, samples of the supplies should be analysed. The Mayor agreed to have samples of supplies analysed whenever he thought necessary. The accepted tenders were as follows: Mr. E. Proudman, chemist, for disinfecting fluid, at 2*s.* per gal.; formalin tablets, 4*s.* 9*d.* per lb.; formalin liquid, 13*s.* 6*d.* per gal.; pine blocks, 27*s.* per cwt.; crude carbolic acid, 1*s.* per gal. Mr. G. M. Pitt, chemist, disinfecting-powder, at 5*s.* and 4*s.* per cwt.; carbolic acid 1*s.* 11*d.* per gal.; sulphur candles, 18*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

Masonic Notes.

Mr. R. Prince, Ph.C., Belgrave Road and Stafford Street, Longton, Staffs, has been appointed Junior Warden of the Etruscan Lodge of Freemasons.

At the meeting of the Farringdon Without Lodge, held at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel on January 29, Mr. W. Bonsor Hayward, 17 Lawrence Lane, London, E.C., was one of the initiates.

Mr. Armishaw Ashfield, Ph.C., High Street, Shanklin (I.W.), has been presented with a Past-Master's Jewel in recognition of his services last year as W.M. of the Chine Lodge of Freemasons.

Poison-licences.

Mr. F. J. Pitts, of 15 High Street, Newport (Mon), has applied to the Town Council for a poison-licence.

Worcester City Council Watch Committee have granted poison-licences to Mr. John Wall, of Broad Street, and Mr. E. J. Parsons, of St. Nicholas Street.

The London County Council has granted licences to sell agri-horticultural poisons to Jonathan Hall and Henry Harold Saunders, assistants employed by George Monroe, Ltd., 4 Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

The Blackpool Town Council's Watch Committee decided on January 26 to refuse the application of a local seedsman for a poison-licence. The application had been refused in November, but it was brought forward again at the December meeting, when it was further adjourned. The local Pharmacists' Association had opposed the granting of a licence, and a deputation therefrom waited upon the committee. It was argued that the reasonable

requirements of the public were already met by chemists. The applicant also appeared in support of his application. The committee concluded that if the weed-killer and other poisonous horticultural requisites could be obtained at thirty-four chemists' shops in the district there was no need for any additional facilities.

From Various Courts.

Victoria Elizabeth Bird, the wife of a collier, has been committed for trial at Nottingham on a charge of murdering her infant son by poisoning him with laudanum at Hucknall Torkard.

At the Guildhall Police Court on January 30, Manuel Zama (21) was remanded on bail of 50/- on a charge of stealing a bottle of eau de Cologne, the property of Messrs. J. Morgan Davies & Sons, chemists, 278 Bishopsgate, London, E.C.

At the Children's Court, Wigan, on January 24, two boys were ordered to be birched for stealing a box of pastilles and two boxes of tablets from the pharmacy of Mr. W. Wilson, Ph.C., 5 Darlington Street, Wigan. A younger boy was admonished by the Chairman for his connection with the offence.

At Bow Street Police Court on January 30, fines and costs amounting to 11/- 3s. were imposed in respect to four summonses against Mr. Fredk. Lionel Hooper, of the National Cash Register Co., Ltd., for wilfully obstructing the pavement in Tottenham Court Road by exhibitions in the company's windows there.

During the inquest at Bolton on the body of a woman aged thirty-eight, who, it was stated, had been taking paregoric, Dr. J. Johnstone explained that paregoric contained opium, and was used to relieve a cough or pain. He submitted that chemists had no right to sell paregoric without a medical prescription. He appealed to Dr. Mowat, the police doctor, for corroboration.—Dr. Mowat: I cannot say.—Dr. Johnstone: I do not think they have any right, except in medicines.—The Coroner (Mr. J. Fearnley, solicitor): I do not think paregoric is a scheduled poison. There are forms of paregoric sold. Still, according to the expert analysis, there is no evidence of poisoning, so death cannot be due to that. A verdict of "Death from natural causes" was returned.

IRISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

Mr. R. Cambridge, registered druggist, Carrickfergus, has been re-elected Vice-Chairman of the local Council.

Mr. M. O'Donnell, Ph.C., President of the Irish Chemists' Association, was born at Kildimo, co. Limerick, in 1835, and educated at St. Munchin's College. In 1902 he was apprenticed to Mr. P. Liston, Limerick, and afterwards became an assistant to Messrs. Graham and Messrs. Hamilton, Long & Co., Dublin. He passed the Pharmaceutical Licence examination in 1908, and is now dispenser to the Castle Street dispensary of the Dublin Guardians.

Mrs. Stock, widow of the late Mr. Stock, Listowel, has intimated to the local Board of Guardians that she has appointed a qualified assistant and means to continue the business. Some Guardians suggested that Mrs. Stock be appointed compounder *pro tem.* till sanctioned by the Local Government Board, rather than import a stranger; but it was stated in reply that Mrs. Stock's appointment would not stand, as she is not a pharmaceutical chemist. Finally a resolution was passed asking the Local Government Board to sanction Mrs. Stock's appointment, Dr. Dillon undertaking to do the work pending a reply.

The Pharmaceutical Calendar.

"The Calendar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland" for 1912 has been issued this week. For the information of those who are not acquainted with the work we may reiterate that it contains the registers of pharmaceutical chemists, chemists and druggists, registered druggists' and apothecaries' assistants, together with lists of

members and associate druggists. The Irish Pharmacy Acts and the by-laws of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland are also given, and what will prove useful to many are the papers that have been given at the various examinations during 1911. The calendar forms a record of the work of the official pharmacy authority in Ireland, which makes it of special value to Irish pharmacists. It is supplied by the Registrar, 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin. It is corrected to December 7, and published at 2s.

SCOTTISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Messrs. John Hamilton & Co., import brokers and merchants, 22 West Nile Street, Glasgow, ask us to state that they have no connection with Hamilton & Co., Ltd., of Glasgow and Greenock, whose liquidation was reported in the *C. & D.*, January 20.

Lord Pentland's decision on the Dundee closing order for chemists' shops was discussed by a committee of Dundee Town Council on January 25. The Town Clerk reported that the chemists were now willing to accept the closing order without the conditions to which the Secretary for Scotland objected. Treasurer Soutar said Lord Pentland's decision rendered the Act innocuous, abortive, and useless, and the consequence was that the closing order would simply prevent chemists selling tapes, sweets, and frippery of no consequence. The chemists would be able to conduct their business as before, but the Town Council were not responsible for humbug of that kind. In the end, the order as modified was adopted.

FRENCH NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

MME. CURIE is now sufficiently improved in health to be able to leave the nursing home where she has been under treatment during the past few weeks. No indication is so far possible, however, as to when she will be able to take up her scientific work again.

ECHO OF A SAD AFFAIR.—M. Parat, known as "the pharmacist of the rue de Vaugirard," Paris, whose matrimonial adventures aroused some interest a couple of years ago, was the defendant in a Paris Police Court last week. His wife obtained a divorce, and since that event M. Parat has continuously addressed certain circulars to various members of her family, which were of such a character that an action for libel was the result. The Court found the offence proved, and M. Parat was sentenced by default to pay 400/- damages to his divorced wife, and to a month's imprisonment.

CUSTOMS DECISIONS.—A French Customs Circular (No. 4107) gives the revised list of authorised medicaments of Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. By tariff letter 13040, the Customs administration has informed the British Chamber of Commerce in Paris that "douches," in rubber sheet put together by gumming, pay duty as "*autres ouvrages en caoutchouc*, n° 620, 70 fr. per 100 kg., British origin." Customs Circular 4196 notifies that natural essences *dérivées* (i.e., deprived of their terpenes by special treatment) will be taxed at from two to forty times their actual weight. (See also *C. & D.*, December 9, 1911, index folio 838.)

THE PARIS SOCIETY OF PHARMACY.—The January meeting of this Society is usually a particularly interesting gathering, as the annual secretary then reads the report of the proceedings of the previous twelve months and the election of officers for the coming year takes place. The report was read on this occasion by Professor Bourquelot, in the absence of his colleague, M. Gaillard, through bereavement. This formality was followed by the report of the prizes awarded for theses on physico-chemical sciences, read by M. M. Michel. M. Hamel takes the gold medal, while the silver medal goes to

M. Alliot. M. Herissey then reported on the competition for the prize instituted by their late and much-regretted colleague, Pierre Vigier; this is awarded to M. Courtot, and the Landrin prize, M. Jaboin informed the Society, had been adjudged to M. Bridel. The pleasing annual ceremony of change of office-holders then took place. Professor Grimbart quitted the presidential *fauteuil* with a few suitable and graceful remarks, and his successor, M. Preud'homme, commenced his duties by an appropriate allocution, in which he dwelt on the prominent part which had been and should be played in the scientific world by the Paris Society of Pharmacy. The only scientific communication was M. Boismenu's paper on "Amides." The meeting terminated by the passing of the 1911 accounts. The Treasurer (M. Vaudin) mentioned that the Leidié legacy would probably shortly be paid in, he had received a letter on the subject from the lawyer who is administering the estate.

POISONING FATALITIES.

ELEVEN deaths as the result of taking poisons have been reported since Wednesday of last week. Two of these were due to misadventure.

Diachylon.—"Self-murder" was the verdict returned at the inquest at Bolton on Beatrice Ellen Lowe (24), married woman, who died from lead-poisoning due to taking diachylon as an abortifacient. Deceased's husband stated that the chemist had warned deceased against taking the drug. Mr. Joseph Richard Shallcross, chemist and druggist, 146 Tonge Moor Road, Bolton, said he did not sell a great quantity of diachylon. It was invariably purchased by women. He sold it principally for making plasters. Women were always cautioned that the drug was poisonous.

Laudanum.—The Battersea Coroner (Mr. John Troutbeck) inquired on January 30 into the death of Lily Marie Taylor (31), wife of a Wandsworth motor-omnibus driver, who died from heart failure accelerated by laudanum-poisoning. The husband of deceased deposed that he was not aware his wife was addicted to the laudanum habit. A daughter, Ruby, aged eleven, said that her mother used to send her to Boots' shop at Earlsfield for "seven-pennyworth of stuff," which witness knew to be laudanum. It was supplied in the green fluted bottle produced, which was half-filled. The Coroner: That is 1½ oz., how long did that last? Witness: Only one dose. Did your mother have that quantity every day?—Yes, sir. Did you know it was poison?—Yes. You used to get something else?—Yes, of the colour of common soda-bromide of potassium. The Coroner: Fancy a little thing like this knowing all about laudanum and bromide of potassium! The witness went on to say that she never told her father about buying the poison, which she had done for just on three years—since she was eight years old. She bought two lots on the day her mother was removed to the infirmary. Mr. David Frame, chemist and druggist, manager to Boots, Ltd., 545 Garratt Lane, Earlsfield, deposed that he had frequently served the last witness with laudanum in the bottle produced. The Coroner said the label read, "Laudanum—Poison. Adult dose 5 to 30 drops; not to be given to children." (To witness): The child says she used to get seven-pennyworth at a time? Witness: Yes; that is 1½ oz. That is very much above the maximum adult dose?—Yes. I half-filled the bottle. Did she get it every day?—Sometimes three or four times a week; not regularly. She says she has done this for three years? Witness: I have not been at Earlsfield three years, so she must have got it elsewhere. I inquired what the lady wanted it for, and she said it was for a liniment to mix with oils for outward application, and I supplied it after refusing. Witness added that he supplied the drug after a second refusal because he knew someone else was supplying it, but he did not know deceased was taking the drug. The Coroner: You must be a very innocent chemist for a woman to evade you like that. In answer to a juror, the Coroner said he was afraid there was no age-limit regarding supplying children with poison, but the legislature had assumed a certain amount of conscience and commonsense on the part of a man carrying on so important a business as that of a chemist. The foreman said it was scandalous that a chemist should sell laudanum to a child eight years old. The Coroner: If a chemist is so ill-advised there is no law against it. Mr. Frame added that the deceased sent him a note asking for the laudanum, and he supplied it out of sympathy. The Coroner said that if a publican used the argument that he supplied a woman with a quart of gin out of sympathy it would not satisfy a

magistrate. The Coroner's officer stated he had warned an unqualified chemist's assistant, who had supplied the child with bromide of potassium, to attend, but he was not present. Dr. Frank Nixie deposed that death was due to heart failure following upon chronic heart and kidney disease. The laudanum habit most certainly accelerated death. Three ounces of laudanum would be an extremely heavy dose, even for an habitual taker. The Coroner, in summing up, said it would shock most people to hear of a little girl of eight being served with large doses of poison, but no doubt, strictly speaking, it was within the law. He could not help feeling that chemists who sold laudanum in this way might in some circumstances become liable for the reckless sale of the poison should death ensue in consequence of it. The argument that the poison was sold because other chemists sold it would not hold water. It was well known that one ought not to do things which might be legally practised when they might do the greatest harm. It was to be regretted that persons following the calling of chemists should be ready to sell dangerous poisons in this reckless way. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence, adding that the chemist was deserving of censure.—Minnie Kate Sampson (47), died at Blandford through taking an accidental overdose of laudanum, and at Manchester Charles Herbert Thomson (15) poisoned himself with this drug.—William Taylor, retired insurance agent, Preston, was found dead in bed with an empty bottle labelled "Laudanum" by his side. He had previously tried to commit suicide with this opiate.—At Northalerton, on January 30, during the inquiry into the death from laudanum-poisoning of a servant-girl named Mary Slater, Lancelot Hedley, apprentice, employed at the local branch of Taylor's Drug Co., Ltd., stated that on the previous Sunday the girl asked for sixpennyworth of laudanum for toothache. The Coroner asked whether the poison register with the sale entered therein had been brought into Court? Witness: No, we sell a lot of laudanum to farmers for cattle and horses. The Coroner: Are those entered? Witness: I don't know. The Coroner: Was not sixpennyworth a lot to sell for toothache? Witness: I asked the manager if I was to serve her with it, and he said, "Yes, an ounce and a half." Witness said he did not tell her how to use it, as she had had it before. In answer to the Coroner, witness said he was sixteen years old, and had not yet passed any examination in chemistry. The Coroner said he thought 1½ oz. of laudanum was more than ought really to have been sold for toothache. A verdict of death from an overdose of laudanum taken by misadventure was returned.

Morphine.—At the inquest on the Rev. Cyril C. H. Sweetnam, curate of Heath, near Chesterfield, who died at Sheffield from narcotic poisoning, the jury found a verdict of "Suicide." In the course of the evidence Mr. Ernest Preston, chemist and druggist, of 105 Barker Pool, Sheffield, said that deceased came to the shop and asked him for a supply of morphia. Witness said he must have a doctor's prescription, but deceased replied that he could not give one because he did not want the morphia for medicinal purposes, but for experiments on moths. Witness then said he must get it from his local chemist, but deceased, having given his name and address, said that Heath was a small place and had no chemist. Witness thereupon said there must be witnesses. The names of Archdeacon Cross, Vicar of Chesterfield, and the Rev. Dawson Parsons, of Pitsmoor, Sheffield, whom witness knew, were given, and 17 grains of morphine hydrochloride was supplied, properly labelled and marked "Poison." In answer to the Coroner, witness said he believed he did rather stretch a point in regard to the introduction given by the deceased, but he was not quite certain what to do, and he attached importance to the fact that deceased was a clergyman. He did not know anything about moths, but thought it reasonable that deceased might want the drug for experiments on them, and he had no reason to doubt his word. In summing up, the Coroner said the reason given for securing the drug seemed to him not a sufficient one, but it appeared to have been sufficient to impose upon Mr. Preston.

Phosphorus-poisoning consequent upon taking rat-poison caused the self-inflicted death of Wm. Albert Harvey, farm labourer, at Brighton.

Salt of Lemon was used for suicidal purposes by Mary Ellen Shield, the wife of a Blyden miner, who bought four-pennyworth of the poison. At the inquest, the Coroner said that there were about sixteen scheduled poisons and something like fifty non-scheduled poisons which anyone could purchase irrespective of age. Could anyone conceive a more extraordinary state of things?—Beatrice King (24), pantomime dancer, died in the Rochdale infirmary from the effects of intentionally taking this poison.

Kind Not Stated.—At Merton, Samuel Sawyer (55), china-merchant, ended his life by taking poison.

LEGAL REPORTS.

TRADE LAW.

Carriage of Ether.—At the Liverpool Police Court on January 30, Antony King, Waterloo Road, Widnes, was fined 40s., and costs, for having in his possession on the premises of the London and North Western Railway Co., Lime Street Station, on November 28, a glass bottle containing 4 lb. of an inflammable spirit—viz., ether—without written permission. It was stated in evidence for the prosecution that a boy dropped the bottle on the platform of Lime Street Station, and some little time after the accident the spirit caught fire. Fortunately, a porter succeeded in extinguishing the flames before any damage was done.

Port of London Dock Dues.—In the City of London Court on January 30, before Sir John Paget, Bart., C.J., Deputy-Judge, the Port of London Authority, 19 Leadenhall Street, claimed 13*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.* against Messrs. John Stewart & Co., shipowners, 3 Fenchurch Avenue, for dock dues at 3*d.* per ton on the net registered tonnage in respect of the sailing-vessel *Dec.* Mr. Hunot, for the Port Authority, stated that before 1908 all the dock dues were under the control of separate companies, and they were all in competition one with the other, and they all had their separate dock dues. The Millwall Dock Co.'s dues were 1*s.* 6*d.* per ton for every boat that went in to load or discharge. At the West India Dock the rate was 1*s.* 6*d.* per ton. The result was if a boat went into Millwall Dock to discharge and into the West India Dock to load, her owners had to pay 2*s.* 6*d.* per ton on the registered tonnage. Then the Port of London Authority was formed, and it saw that the shipowners were paying a great deal too much. It decided to refund the 1*s.* per ton paid for one of the dock dues, but they said that the owners must pay 3*d.* per ton or going from one dock to the other. Defendants were now refusing to pay the 3*d.* per ton. Plaintiffs could enforce the 2*s.* 6*d.* if they liked. There was a working arrangement to pay 3*d.* per ton after 1909 and before new regulations were issued. Mr. Macolls, shipping superintendent to the plaintiffs, said it might be that some shipowners had escaped paying the 3*d.* per ton now sued for, but that was because of the changes that took place in the passing of the docks. No notice was given to the shipowners of the imposition of the 3*d.* rate. Mr. J. A. Young, one of the defendants, said they owned fourteen ships and constantly used the docks. Before 1908 shipowners, in nine cases out of ten, used to pay the dues in one dock where they unloaded and then load in the river, where no dues were payable. It had since been the custom to pay an all-round charge of 3*d.* per ton for the use of both Millwall and West India Docks, and that had been done by them; hence their objection to pay the 3*d.* per ton now demanded. There was no official demand for the 1*s.* 6*d.* per ton, but the plaintiffs did not send out any official notice of rates or changes. The shipping world would not know where they were if the plaintiffs were to win in that case, as they had all made their arrangements on the assumption of a payment of 3*d.* per ton. Shippers would have a real grievance if the claim succeeded. Sir John Paget held that the defendants were in the right, and gave judgment for them, with costs.

Medicine-stamp Acts.

PHATOLENE AGAIN.

At the Marlborough Police Court, London, on January 31, before Mr. Symmons, George Blount, Berwick House, Oxford Street, W., was charged on three summonses issued at the instance of the Commissioners of Customs and Excise with keeping and selling a medicine unstamped. Mr. Beattie, who prosecuted, said that a limited company used to sell the medicine in question, which was called "Phatolene," and was used as a remedy for obesity. The company, which in 1910 was summoned for a similar offence and fined (*C. & D.*, 1910, II., 353 and 387), had now ceased to exist, and the defendant appeared to be now carrying on the business on his own account. Mr. A. W. Cope, inspector of Customs and Excise, gave evidence as to the purchase of Phatolene. The Magistrate found the charges proved, and imposed fines and costs amounting to 21*l.* 4*s.*, with the alternative of a month's imprisonment without hard labour. The defendant said he would pay.

SALE OF UNSTAMPED MEDICINES.

At Cannock Police Court on January 29, Horace D. Hayward, Leicester Square, Walsall, trading as a chemist, pleaded guilty to five offences under Section 2 of the 1812 Act. Mr. A. D. Stocks, who prosecuted on behalf of the

Commissioners of Customs and Excise, stated that the defendant was licensed to sell dutiable medicines. On November 18 an Excise officer went into his shop at Cannock and noticed various unstamped medicines on sale. He had a conversation with the manager of the shop about the matter, and the manager informed Mr. Hayward. The Commissioners also wrote to him, and Mr. Hayward, in reply, wrote stating that since November 18 he had committed no breach of the law, systematic or otherwise, and making certain explanations of the case.

Mr. Frank Cooper, solicitor, Walsall, explained, on behalf of the defendant, that he had had a fire at his wholesale warehouse in Birmingham and a quantity of patent medicines had been distributed to his branches, with instructions that they should not be sold without the stamps. At the same time the Excise officer obtained the unstamped articles from Mr. Hayward's shop the manager of the shop was on notice to leave; and the plea of defendant was that this fact had something to do with the articles being exposed for sale without the necessary stamps.

Defendant gave evidence in support of this statement, and admitted that he did not mention this excuse to the Commissioners.

A fine of 2*l.* and costs was imposed on one charge, and on the other charges fines of 6*d.* and costs—total, 4*l.* 13*s.*

UNRENEWED LICENCES.

At the Bath Police Court, the Mayor (Mr. T. F. Plowman) presiding, on January 27, James Hadwen Jackson, 19 Kingsmead Square, Bath, was summoned at the instance of the Commissioners of Customs and Excise under Section 9 of the 1802 Act, for uttering, vending, and exposing for sale dutiable medicines without being licensed so to do. The section is as follows:

"From and after the said first day of September, one thousand eight hundred and two, no person whatsoever shall in any manner take or receive any profit, advantage, or emolument, as the owner or proprietor of, or make or compound, or utter, vend, or expose for sale, or keep ready for sale, any drugs, herbs, medicines, medicaments, or other preparations or compositions aforesaid, or any packets, boxes, bottles, pots, phials, or other inclosures aforesaid, with any such contents as aforesaid, which shall be subject to the duties granted by this Act, unless he or she shall have first obtained a licence in such manner as is hereinbefore directed, upon pain to forfeit for every such offence the sum of twenty pounds, to be recovered and applied as hereinbefore directed."

Mr. Harold G. Hornsby, of the Solicitors' Department, Custom House, London, explained that the defendant had had a licence which expired on September 1, 1911, and he had failed to renew it. He was notified of the fact, and on September 27 an Excise officer called upon him, and in reply to his warning Mr. Jackson stated that it was an oversight and promised to take out a licence next day. This, however, was not done, and on November 6 an Excise officer purchased at Mr. Jackson's shop a box of Carter's Little Liver Pills, so that there was no question that the defendant was liable for the licence-duty. Mr. Hornsby added that the prosecution was brought to show chemists that they must take out the licence promptly, and in reply to the Mayor he stated that the duty is 5*s.* a year.

Defendant explained to the Court that at the beginning of September, when the licence fell due, he was ill and away from Bath for five weeks. When he returned he had decided to sell his business, as he had come to the conclusion that Bath did not suit his health, so he did not renew the licence, considering that his successor would take another out immediately.

Mr. Hornsby at this point remarked that the licences are transferable.

Defendant replied that he was not aware of that, but had received a letter from the Board of Customs and Excise offering to compound the offence for 10*s.*

Mr. Hornsby remarked that that offer was now withdrawn, and he hoped the Bench would not take it into consideration.

In reply to the Magistrate's Clerk, the defendant said he did not compound because he was prepared to take the case before the Magistrate, and it seemed to him that he was brought up as a kind of example to others.

The Mayor said the Bench saw no justification for the defendant not taking out the licence, and imposed a fine of 1*l.* and costs.

At the same time Mr. Hedley Coe, chemist and druggist, 5 Cheap Street, Bath, was summoned for a similar offence, and pleaded guilty. In this case two notices were sent to the defendant to renew his licence and a personal application on October 10. A box of Beecham's Pills was purchased from him on October 18, and it was in respect of this that the proceedings were taken. Defendant pleaded that he forgot all about the licence. A fine of 1*l.* and costs was imposed.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

SPIRIT OF NITRE.

At the Burnley Police Court on January 31, Mr. J. A. Barlow, chemist, Padiham Road, and Mr. John Brown (Francis & Co.), chemist, Manchester Road, were summoned for selling spirit of nitre under strength. The case against Mr. Barlow was first taken, the evidence being that the spirit, which he sold on December 28, contained only 1.10 per cent. of ethyl nitrite. He explained that it was over a twelvemonth since he purchased the spirit, and each time a quantity was poured from a large bottle into a smaller bottle the strength deteriorated. The Magistrates ordered him to pay the costs—3*s.* 6*d.* The same was done in Mr. Brown's case, where the spirit sold contained 1.32 per cent. of ethyl nitrite, or, as the analyst expressed it, in 100 parts 76 of genuine spirit and 24 of decomposed spirit.

JUNORA WINE.

At the Bradford City Police Court on January 25 (as briefly reported in the *C. & D.*, January 27), before Mr. H. W. W. Wilberforce (the Stipendiary Magistrate), Taylor's Drug Stores, Ltd., of Bradford, were summoned for alleged sale of Junora wine containing no lecithin-ovo. Mr. H. R. Watling prosecuted on behalf of the Bradford Corporation, and Mr. Bodkin, K.C., appeared for the defendants.

Mr. Watling said the wine in question was sold as an article of food according to the label which appears on the bottle, and according to an advertisement in all the papers. These advertisements described Junora as a wine of health, "The Nerve Food," and as containing lecithin-ovo. He did not think there would be much dispute as to the facts. The contest, he understood, would be upon the public analyst's certificate, which stated that the sample contained no lecithin-ovo, and indeed was merely a sample of sweetened and watered sherry. He described to the Magistrate what lecithin is, and submitted that the wine was sold to the prejudice of the purchaser.

Inspector J. J. Warrington, who issued the summons, proved the purchase.

Mr. F. W. Richardson, F.I.C., public analyst, stated that he examined about 7 oz., and would have been able to discover one-tenth of a grain of lecithin-ovo to 1 pint if it had been there. He used 2 fl. oz. for the lecithin test. The normal quantities of nitrogen and phosphorus for sherry were present in the wine, but no more. He found 0.02 per cent. of nitrogen, and a very minute quantity of phosphorus only. There was nothing left to justify him in stating that there was lecithin. If there had been one-twentieth part of the minimum amount which he considered should have been present, it could have been ascertained in a supplementary sample sent by him to the defendants after they had lost their original sample by misadventure. The supplementary sample was about 25 c.c. Cross-examined by Mr. Bodkin, Mr. Richardson said he tested by extracting the wine with a large quantity of sulphuric ether, evaporating the ether at a low temperature, drying the residue *in vacuo*, and repeating the process, when any lecithin present would remain, and the phosphorus could be accurately determined after converting into phosphoric acid.

Mr. Bodkin said he proposed to call Dr. Otto Hehner, Dr. Schridowitz, and Dr. Tunncliffe, who would testify as to the real value of Junora wine, and witnesses who had made the lecithin-ovo for the wine, and placed it in

the vat, and from the vat into the bottles, and had sent the supplies to Taylor's and including the particular bottle from which the sample had been taken.

The Stipendiary Magistrate suggested that the testimony as to analysis should be first exhausted on both sides.

Dr. Otto Hehner, of London, was then called, and stated that at the works of the maker of Junora he had seen large quantities of the yolks of eggs, and had seen and examined there the lecithin which was made for the wine, which was of good commercial quality, and had examined the wine basis of Junora, and the completed product. There was three times as much lecithin in the complete wine as in the non-lecithin wine. He pledged his reputation as a chemist and analyst that lecithin was added to the wine, but it was added in a way which was a trade secret, and so new that he had been unaware of the method until he had actually seen it at the works of the makers of this wine within the last six weeks. In reply to the Stipendiary Magistrate, he said under these circumstances he felt that he ought not to disclose the method, but he pledged his reputation upon the fact of it. It was a method which rendered it very unlikely that the lecithin could be discovered by Mr. Richardson's process. Mr. Richardson's failure to discover lecithin by his process of testing was quite consistent with the fact that the lecithin was in the wine nevertheless. Nor was the fact that Mr. Richardson had added lecithin to Junora, and then recovered by the test which he had described at all inconsistent with the fact that by a special process which was a trade secret lecithin was added by the makers in such a way that Mr. Richardson had not discovered it upon his analysis.

Mr. Richardson having been recalled and re-examined, The Stipendiary Magistrate said he supposed that this was a question which would have to be determined some where and some day, but it was ridiculous to suggest that with such differences of testimony between eminent men it could be determined in that criminal court. And even in the event of his giving a decision and there being an appeal he scarcely felt that even the Court of Quarter Sessions could be expected to deal with such a question. In view of such a *bona-fide* difference of opinion between two scientific men as was disclosed in this case, he could not pretend to be able to determine which was right and which was wrong, and he considered the defendants had succeeded in raising sufficient doubt to justify them in asking that these proceedings should be abandoned, and this problem might be determined in other courts where the circumstances for its satisfactory solution were more favourable.

Mr. Bodkin intimated that if the case was abandoned he would not ask for costs.

Mr. Watling said the Corporation had to consider the public, in whose interests solely they were acting, and they had to consider the fact that, if present at all, the lecithin was there in the wine in infinitesimal quantities and absolutely of no avail for the purpose for which it was advertised. Would Mr. Bodkin give an undertaking that for the future the wine should contain an amount of lecithin to be agreed upon between the makers and the medical officers of health?

The Stipendiary Magistrate said that was a question quite outside the scope of the case. The complainant's case was that there was no lecithin at all.

Mr. Bodkin observed that he must withdraw his offer if the Corporation persisted in the line adopted by Mr. Watling, who had ignored the fact that he had with him witnesses like Dr. Tunncliffe who, if the case proceeded were to speak as to the intrinsic merits of Junora for the purpose for which it was sold. He would not in the least mind going on with the case, but he had thought to save time and trouble.

The Stipendiary Magistrate said he had no desire to evade a duty, but he was bound to say that the complainant's case as it stood was not sufficiently established for him to be justified in calling upon the defendant for a further answer.

Mr. Watling asked if the Stipendiary Magistrate could adjourn the case for a fortnight so that he could take the instructions of the Corporation.

The Magistrate said there was no justification

for such an adjournment. There was no question of law, and nobody cast any doubt upon the evidence.

Mr. Watling: Then I withdraw the summons.

The Stipendiary Magistrate: I will dismiss it if you prefer.

Mr. Watling: No, I do not prefer that.

High Court Cases.

Unless when otherwise stated these cases have been heard in the High Court of Justice, London.

A LIBEL ACTION.

Before Mr. Justice Pickford and a special jury in the King's Bench Division on February 1, the Dental Manufacturing Co., of Lexington Street, London, W., sued C. de Trey & Co., of Denman Street, Piccadilly Circus, London, to recover damages for alleged libel in a circular issued by defendants to various houses on February 27, 1911. The hearing had not concluded when the Court adjourned.

THE CAPSULOIDS CASE.

The case for the defence is now proceeding. The present report includes the conclusion of Dr. Dixon's examination, and the evidence of Mr. A. Proctor Atkinson, Dr. Inglis Clark, and Dr. F. W. Passmore, interesting information being given regarding little known details of gelatin-capsule manufacture.

The hearing of the action by Capsuloids (1909), Limited, against Messrs. Duncan, Flockhart & Co., manufacturing chemists, against whom the plaintiffs allege breach of contract in regard to the supply of capsuloids, was resumed by Mr. Muir-MacKenzie, High Court Official Referee, on January 25. Defendants deny the allegations, and present a counter-claim.

The evidence of Mr. W. Howard Lloyd and Mr. Albert Smith (Timothy White Co., Ltd., Southsea) was reported in the coloured supplement of the *C. & D.* January 27. They were followed in the box by Dr. Dixon, managing director of the plaintiff company, whose cross-examination had been interrupted on January 20 by his loss of voice. Replying to Mr. Clavell Salter, K.C., he denied that he had ever said in his correspondence with Denoual that he had a number of capsuloids returned on his hands from customers as of Denoual's manufacture that were mouldy. When he had written complaining of certain capsuloids, he did not mean that they were mouldy, although there might have been one or two that were mouldy.

Mr. Salter: But did you not tell Denoual that a lot of his goods had become mouldy?

Dr. Dixon replied he could not remember what took place six years ago, but the correspondence would speak for itself. He went on to say that they had had occasional complaints concerning smell to make to every maker, and they had pointed out certain remedial suggestions which were adopted by these makers. Witness repeated that he thought that many of the defendants' experiments were entirely unnecessary. He had not got the report which he told Denoual he had received from one of the most distinguished analysts in London. He did not know where it was, and he could not remember the analyst. Mr. Salter was quite wrong (added witness) when he suggested there never was a report at all. He admitted that he had taxed Denoual with using witness's stuff for his own purposes. He also admitted that he had withdrawn proceedings against Denoual and paid his own costs.

Mr. Salter, who had already questioned the witness concerning the various parts he had taken in civil actions in the civil courts, then cross-examined him concerning proceedings taken against him under the Medicine Stamp Act, as reported in the *C. & D.* of May 7, 1904 (p. 736). Witness, in further cross-examination, said that in January 1910 they were not taking capsules from other capsule makers, but they were taking from various members of the trade, and witness thought that they had the largest quantity from Sanger. "We were urged by many," continued the witness, "to take back capsuloids, as the sale was going down."

Mr. Salter: Did you tell Mr. Atkinson when he complained of the rate you were taking the goods that you were arranging to take less from other suppliers, and more from his people?—I did not tell Mr. Atkinson any-

thing of the kind. My constant complaint to Mr. Atkinson was to give me more capsuloids.

Did you ever suggest to Mr. Atkinson that you were getting back a single capsuloid from any customer?—Yes. Business, he added, was going fast to nothing, and these people were constantly urging them to buy back. The witness remarked with some emphasis that it had always been clearly intimated to defendants that no change was to be made in the contents of their capsules. Asked if he criticised the dictum of Dr. Inglis Clark, witness said: "I know nothing of that gentleman. I know only of the ridiculous statements that came from Edinburgh."

Mr. Salter: Did Mr. Atkinson tell you early in October that Dr. Clark had written him from Edinburgh asking him to point out to you that some of the capsules you had returned to Edinburgh were reddish, others black, and others grey?

Witness: To the best of my recollection he never talked about the change of colour; otherwise I think I should have asked him to produce samples.

Mr. Salter repeated the question several times, and asked Dr. Dixon if he would swear that Mr. Atkinson had made no such statement. Dr. Dixon replied that he would not swear to that effect. He would have to have an expert memory to remember all this, and declined to swear as to the words of any particular occasion.

Proceeding, the witness stated that Messrs. Duncan, Flockhart & Co. had suggested that the defects were due to excessive moisture in the hæmoglobin powder. Witness thought that the main defect was the dimness. Witness was sure that moisture had nothing to do with the defects. He had always been very ready to assist Messrs. Duncan, Flockhart & Co., and if they thought there was moisture in the hæmoglobin powder he was most anxious always to show them there was not, and that it was not moisture in the hæmoglobin that had occasioned the trouble.

Dr. Dixon, further cross-examined on Friday, January 26, by Mr. Clavell Salter, K.C., said he did not consider the series of experiments conducted by Dr. Inglis Clark in January 1910 of any value to the plaintiff company.

Mr. Salter: Did you not consider they secured valuable information? Witness alleged they were of no use whatever to him, except so far, he added, that they might end up the experiments the defendants were making.

Did you have an interview with Dr. Inglis Clark at the offices in Farringdon Road on November 17, 1909?—I had an interview with him, but I cannot specify the date.

At that interview did you ask Dr. Clark to be good enough to make experiments to try to ascertain the cause of the dulness and offer to assist him in doing so?—No, sir. Answering another question, the witness said he could not tell that there was an advantage, as the result of the series of experiments, of using lanoline with the mixture. It would, he considered, have been a serious matter to change the form of the mixture which they had been using so many years. Witness acknowledged that Mr. Atkinson had called upon him on two or three occasions during the summer of 1910 and pressed for payment, which witness did not make because (he said) the accounts were not due. Answering another question, he said he did not know whether or not Mr. Atkinson ever saw five tins of capsuloids alleged to be mouldy, and delivered by defendants in July 1911. The witness added that of these five tins one had been sent back to Edinburgh, two were retained, and, he thought, brought to court, and the remaining two "thrown out." Witness swore that one tin was sent back to Edinburgh immediately. While he could not show a delivery note or document of any kind, he could testify on his own personal knowledge that the transmission was made. Witness added that on May 19, 1911, the action having been begun on November 13, 1910, Dr. Inglis Clark, Dr. Passmore, and Mr. Atkinson attended at Duke Street to see the goods which he had produced, and they had seen all that they had at that time.

A searching cross-examination then followed concerning the "identification of various tins mentioned in the proceedings. Mr. Salter seeking to be informed as to what

part the various "exhibits" had figured in during the different interviews between the parties. Eventually Mr. Salter asked Dr. Dixon whether he would swear to the Court that a certain tin (produced) was not one of eight tins dispatched to him on December 28, 1909.—Dr. Dixon: Yes. I know we did not keep tins. Until December 29 we were in constant need of capsuloids. These clearly looked good, and took some little time to go mouldy. We kept them after we got suspicious, and for that reason the chances are that they are part of the July number. Dr. Dixon referred to another tin as kept because Duncan, Flockhart & Co. had objected to the method of packing. Opening the box, the doctor said that the capsuloids therein had stuck to the paper lining the boxes.

Mr. Salter: That appears to be a question of packing.

The Official Referee: Do you know what consignment they came out of?—No, sir.

Mr. Salter: I understand that we have examined every tin in this case. I call for the tin that was seen in the Referee's clerk's room the day before yesterday by my clients labelled "Capsuloids, 13th July."—Dr. Dixon: These are all that I have brought down and put into the room.

Asked why none of three certain tins were produced to defendants on May 19, Dr. Dixon replied: "The case was not being tried then. The first one, at the top, concerned the question of packing, and was therefore not brought forward. I do not know that there was any particular reason concerning the second. We did not go into the question of packing, but were dealing with the mould aspect. One tin might have been at my solicitors at that time, but I do not know. I think that is a good explanation."

Mr. Salter: My clients came and asked if that were all the tins. They were told there were more, and they came again in the afternoon. Why were none of these tins produced?—They were told at the time that there were some at Mr. Parry's, and think I am right in saying that they were told at Messrs. Sugden & Hextall, my solicitors.

Mr. Salter: Will you swear that either of these tins was at Mr. Parry's on May 19, 1911?—No, sir. I thought that the third one had been got rid of. We kept two. I did not know it was in the exhibits. It is exactly like the other tin.

Answering further questions, the inspector said that the mixture contained 54 per cent. of olive-oil, standardised to 8 per cent. of oleic acid and 46 per cent. of hæmoglobin. Witness denied that in the particulars he had furnished concerning Messrs. Sangers he had meant the Court to understand that, along with the rest, capsuloids were returned because their quality was bad. Messrs. Sangers, he said, were their agents, and when the agency terminated Sangers returned a certain number. His object in giving the particulars in question was to enable them to explain fully when the matter came before the Court.

Mr. Salter: Did you not intend the Court to think that these capsuloids had been returned because of the bad quality?—I did absolutely nothing of the sort. I wish always to give the true facts. I did not suppose the Court was trying the case until the facts were before them.

The cross-examination of Dr. Dixon, which had lasted in the aggregate about four days, closed at three o'clock.

RE-EXAMINATION.

Mr. Mitchell Innes, K.C., re-examining, began by asking his client as to the last phase in the cross-examination. The witness said he had fully explained the Sangers particulars to the solicitors, and from first to last he had never made any concealment, having always explained when asked any questions. Questioned concerning the two fires at the old premises, the witness said they had taken the premises at 79 Duke Street, and had started to advertise at that new address. Consequently, orders were coming along there, and therefore they sent for a great many things belonging to the new company, including these books. Those of the old company, not being needed at the time, were left down at the old premises, and were in the basement. They were destroyed. Some

were stored in the basement, and others were left there to be forwarded on a convenient occasion. He added that the incoming tenants moved in very quickly into the old premises, "pushing him out into the hall," as witness termed it. Both claims were allowed by the insurance company, he declared.

Mr. Mitchell Innes then invited the witness to tell him the history of what counsel phrased the "so-called exposure" in Denmark. Dr. Dixon explained that a certain man in Denmark was in a large way of business regarding proprietary medicines, and put up (he asserted) an imitation of capsuloids which were not a success. That man made other successive endeavours, which were like wise unsuccessful. That man, the witness alleged, controlled the medical and trade journals of Denmark, for he was a man in a way of business ten times bigger than any other of the kind in Denmark. Then there appeared in these journals this "so-called exposure" of the plaintiff's capsuloids and containing statements utterly false. Witness, in the result, consulted a solicitor. Then he found that a doctor, who was an old friend of this chemist, was about to bring a Bill into Parliament to shut down all such preparations as capsuloids, and it was proposed that no one should be allowed to buy them without a doctor's prescription. "This man" (as the witness called him) found he was not progressing, and witness was denounced as an Englishman who was making millions in Denmark. Witness took steps to prepare articles in the papers giving the true facts. "We exposed the whole business," said the witness. "The Bill was not brought in, and the member of Parliament was not re-elected when he put up again. We were allowed to sell in Denmark, and are still doing so."

Mr. Mitchell Innes: There is a suggestion that the export of capsuloids was to be treated as outside the original contract. Is that so?—It is not so. Witness was then re-examined concerning litigation between himself and other firms whose names had been mentioned. He said that he had never before made any claim in law in respect of mouldy capsuloids. Referring to the proceedings taken at the Guildhall against him, the witness said they had claimed exemption from the amount the authorities sought to be imposed on various grounds including that in relation to the question of drugs, and also on that of the preparation being a toilet article. The witness, at the request of his counsel, gave what he declared to be the figures representing the average sales of the business with capsuloids since 1904 and up to 1909.

This concluded the case for the plaintiffs. On Saturday, January 27,

THE CASE FOR THE DEFENCE.

was opened by Mr. Clavell Salter, K.C., who spoke at great length, the following being the substance of his remarks. He submitted that this was an action of a bad kind, and unfounded in fact, and brought by a desperate man. He should like to indicate that his submission, upon the case as it now stood, was that the action was wholly misconceived. Having presented various legal aspects in connection with the Sale of Goods Act and implied warranties counsel said his clients attached the greatest importance to this case. At a time when these proceedings were threatened first, they felt that whatever might be the legal form of this action an imputation of a serious kind was being made on them as to their competence and their work. The defendants' firm was founded in Edinburgh about 116 years ago; sixteen years ago they founded a branch in London, which had been managed for them ever since by Mr. Atkinson, who, while not himself a member of the firm, was greatly trusted as having been for many years in their employ, and well capable of managing a branch. For the last twenty-five years the defendants had been manufacturers of capsules on a very large scale. They had manufactured about 200,000,000 capsules in the last quarter of a century. This was an important part of their business, and defendants' capsule preparations had long enjoyed a very high reputation. As in all the other branches defendants took the very greatest care with this branch of their business, and employed a large and competent staff. His point was

that the only complaint that was made was the complaint of bad workmanship. It was not suggested that the ingredients were unskillfully and improperly made, and that the gelatin mass was wrong. It was not suggested that the mixture was not properly filled into the capsules, and it was not now suggested that they were not properly sealed or properly washed. Original challenges by the plaintiffs had not been pursued; the one complaint now was that at the end of all this process the defendants did not allow a sufficient period for drying before despatching the goods which were properly packed. Counsel then gave a lengthy history of the past and the present Capsuloid Company. Referring to the fires, he said that large numbers of documents relating to the old company were destroyed. Then the plaintiff company went to Duke Street. In December Dr. Dixon had to meet his shareholders. Dr. Dixon had said that a loss of 2,700*l.* was due to the misdoings of the defendants.

The Official Referee: This is only a revenue loss.

Mr. Salter: They made a loss on the year's trading, and it would be obviously a very unpleasant meeting. Two-thirds of the alleged returns which are put in these particulars had come into the possession of Dr. Dixon, and if ever a man wanted to give excuses to put before his shareholders, that man was Dr. Dixon. Continuing, Mr. Salter remarked that at that meeting Dr. Dixon did not make any references in the report to Messrs. Duncan, Flockhart & Co., but told his shareholders that he expected to do better next year. Dr. Dixon, when asked to explain the absence of any reference to the defendants in that report, could only say it was thought better to give that information verbally to the shareholders. He had brought this action and alleged loss of custom amounting to 8,000*l.* He had been asked to give the name of one customer who had left in consequence of the misdoings of Duncan, Flockhart & Co. The doctor had promised to give particulars, and no such particulars had been given. It was not true that Mr. Atkinson had ever solicited orders from Dr. Dixon or approached him in any way. The first Mr. Atkinson heard of this matter was when Dr. Dixon asked him to call. Counsel remarked that Mr. Ewing, one of the leading partners of the defendant firm, had proposed they should not take on this contract, his reason being that a contract of this kind was out of the usual run; in fact, very much so. The usual business of these capsule-makers, said counsel, was to supply the retail trade with their own preparations. They had from time to time put up customers' drugs, but as a rule it was a small job. Mr. Ewing was urged to yield for this reason only that they employed a large number of young women, whom defendants were very reluctant to discharge, even when trade fluctuated. It had been represented to them by Dr. Dixon that he would keep them well and constantly supplied with mixture, and that he would take the capsuloids regularly and in large quantities, so that the defendants could make them in their spare time and keep their hands employed. It was for that reason alone, counsel repeated, to avoid discharging these young women, that defendants entered into this contract, admittedly taken at a moderate figure. Referring to Dr. Dixon's dealings with other firms, Mr. Salter remarked that Dr. Dixon had had an action against Denoual, and also an action against Ferber; while another firm, named Warrick, had sued him, and now Dr. Dixon was suing Messrs. Duncan, Flockhart & Co. Counsel remarked that his clients were accustomed to using hæmoglobin for their capsules, and they never had any trouble. From first to last they had conducted experiments with the hope of satisfying Dr. Dixon; these experiments were conducted throughout by Dr. Inglis Clark, a partner in the firm, a gentleman occupying a high and well-recognised position. Counsel ventured to say that so far from there having been negligence or incompetence on the part of the defendants, scientific skill of the highest kind had been applied, and no one could have performed more ungrudging work and taken a keener interest in these problems than Dr. Inglis Clark. Counsel mentioned that the defendants dried their goods by air in warm rooms. Having related other methods they employed to ensure the highest possible efficiency counsel said that defendants suggested that this mixture supplied by Dr. Dixon had been prepared roughly, and that it differed very much at different

times—that there was at times a much larger amount of moisture in the brew than there was at other times.

MONDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Resuming his opening speech on January 29 Mr. Salter pointed out that throughout the three months immediately preceding the ruptures and complaints, March, April, and May, not a capsule had been returned. During that time peace prevailed and satisfaction was expressed, and the extensive consignment of twenty-five tins was taken on March 29, and none of these were returned. Counsel admitted, however, that certain tins opened on June 18 and stored in the basement of plaintiffs' premises in Southwark, were found to be mouldy. Dr. Dixon had sent an ordinary letter of complaint, but there were no allegations concerning breach of contract, and the reply from the defendants expressed regret and also suggested that the mould was not to be wondered at, having regard to the wet weather and place where the capsuloids had been stored. It appeared (said counsel) that these capsuloids had remained in the basement during April, May, and part of June—one of the wettest springs and early summers that have occurred of recent years—after their journey from Scotland. When one remembered they were in a basement in such a place as Southwark, mould was not surprising. Mr. Salter repudiated the suggestion that Dr. Dixon had sent a tin of these or any capsuloids at once to Edinburgh. Nothing whatever was sent until August 20. Counsel remarked that after the meeting of May 19 at Duke Street, when samples were taken, fourteen of these were given to Dr. Passmore. Of these fourteen three bore the label of the old company, and out of these fourteen samples four were not of defendants' manufacture. Having reviewed at great length the evidence given by the plaintiffs, and referred to the correspondence, Mr. Salter contended that testimony concerning the identity of the capsuloids was most unsatisfactory. Putting aside the question of the Indian capsuloids, there was not, he said, one single capsuloid the history of which was clearly known, concerning whereabouts, conditions of keeping, etc. Mr. Salter urged that all his clients were called upon to do was to rebut the allegation that there was any lack of care and skill on their part in the manufacture of capsules.

Mr. Adam Proctor Atkinson, the London manager of the defendant firm, was the first witness called on its behalf. Examined by Mr. Colam (with Mr. Salter) Mr. Atkinson stated he had been in the employ of Messrs. Duncan, Flockhart & Co. for about thirty years, and he opened the London branch in 1896. He related the transactions resulting in the contract entered into between the parties for the manufacture of 5,000,000 capsuloids for the plaintiff company. In response to a letter of invitation, received from Dr. Dixon on March 22, 1909, witness called on him and was asked if the defendants would be prepared to enter into a contract for a large supply of capsuloids. Shown by the doctor some samples of capsuloids, witness at that interview had criticised their general appearance, length of neck and other characteristics, but Dr. Dixon declared he did not want these altered, and added that the capsuloids smelt badly sometimes, and that certain manufacturers employed vanilla to surmount the objections. Dr. Dixon suggested the contract for the supply of 5,000,000 capsules to be received during a period of twelve months, but eventually the period of delivery was extended to fifteen months. At the end of the interview the witness asked for a sample of capsuloids to show his firm how they were sealed. He had not informed Dr. Dixon at that interview that his firm dried capsules by means of sulphuric acid, for he was not aware of it himself. On April 3 witness, having got the quotation from Edinburgh, saw Dr. Dixon, who characterised the quotation of 2*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 as satisfactory. Witness intimated that the low quotation was given on condition that the Capsuloid Company kept the firm well supplied with hæmoglobin mixture, so that the defendants could do the work during leisure time when the girls were not occupied otherwise. Dr. Dixon had informed him during these various conversations about difficulties he had had with other manufacturers who had complained of congestion. Witness told the doctor he would not have any difficulties of that sort. The doctor informed him it

was his intention to reduce the orders by degrees to other manufacturers and give more orders to the defendants, whose capsules on the market he had seen and admired very much. Witness had been informed by the doctor that he was employing other makes. He denied that he had ever informed Dr. Dixon that defendants were losing money by the contract. He had intimated that unless the defendants were given less trouble with the capsules there would be very little profit on the contract. In regard to an interview on July 28, 1910, when at Dr. Dixon's office he was shown two tins of export capsuloids, covered with blue mould, and said to have been delivered as late as July 13, the witness declared that he repudiated all liability for the defect. The tins were rusty about the hinges, and witness had said that they must have been kept by the plaintiffs in a damp place, as the defendants carefully examined every tin before despatching it. Witness saw other tins in which capsuloids were beginning to go mouldy. Witness had told Dr. Dixon that he knew the laboratory in Edinburgh used every precaution in the manufacture, drying and treatment generally of capsules, that every batch was examined before leaving Edinburgh, and that how capsuloids made by the defendants could be in that condition in which they were in so short a time after leaving Edinburgh he could not explain. He had never seen anything like it before, he had added, and the explanation of it must be looked for either in the improper storage or improper packing in plaintiffs' own bottles. Witness was present at an interview at which Dr. Dixon and Mr. Parry were present, and at which Mr. Parry, it had been said, had come to the conclusion that the mould in the capsuloids was due to their being improperly dried, and, to some extent, to inferior gelatin. Dr. Dixon had afterwards tried to get witness to admit liability on the part of the defendants for the mouldy capsuloids, but witness absolutely declined to do so. Witness had asked him at a certain interview if he were going to raise an action for damages against them. The doctor replied, "Why not?" Witness emphatically denied, however, that he had ever said that his firm were terrible fighters, who had plenty of money, and had once beaten the Government.

Mr. Colam : Dr. Dixon says that you said at that interview that you could not speak officially, but if the whole matter were dropped and the contract ended a sum might be given to settle the whole thing. Did you say that?—Certainly not.

Did he ask you how much, and did you say, "perhaps 10%?"—No, sir; there was no such suggestion at all. But I remember Dr. Dixon said that he would have to consult his co-directors as to whether he would raise the action against Duncan, Flockhart & Co. or not. Witness corroborated the other statements made by Mr. Salter concerning interviews and inspections.

In cross-examination by Mr. Mitchell Innes, K.C., the witness expressed his confidence that Dr. Dixon had mentioned to him at the outset that he had four or five other makers. Witness honestly believed that when Dr. Dixon said to him, "I want another maker," he signified that he had four or five other makers. Witness was also positive that Dr. Dixon had spoken about the running out of other contracts with the plaintiff company.

TUESDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Mr. Mitchell Innes continued his cross-examination of Mr. Atkinson on Tuesday morning. The standard sample sent to Edinburgh to work by consisted of about twenty capsules, witness stated, and he denied that he had received on April 3 a small bottle and a small gelatin tube filled with capsuloids. He was positive his firm had instructed him to point out to Dr. Dixon that for export as well as for home capsuloids glass tubes were undesirable. Mr. Mitchell Innes asked whether witness's attitude regarding Dr. Dixon in April 1909 was not fitly described by witness in a letter : "If he (Dr. Dixon) pays promptly each month for what he gets and we are not bound in any way, I see no harm in our continuing to make capsuloids for him." Witness : "That was not my attitude towards him at that time. I was extremely anxious to please him." Answering further questions, the witness said he had thought there was no binding contract, and witness had

believed Dr. Dixon had thought there was no binding contract. Witness believed that Dr. Dixon might have had small grounds for complaints at some time. They had accepted Dr. Dixon's description of these capsuloids but defendants' opinion had been that in the majority cases Dr. Dixon's complaints were very ill-founded. Witness was further questioned in regard to Dr. Dixon's allegations as to damage of business, on the correspondence on the experiments made by Dr. Inglis Clark, and as to the hæmoglobin mixture.

In re-examination by Mr. Clavell Salter, the witness said that as the contract proceeded he began to make inquiries about Dr. Dixon; that was in January 1900. his firm's dealings with Dr. Dixon, they had had many periods of silence and of constant orders for goods. was not true to say that Dr. Dixon had sent him a copy of every letter he had sent to Edinburgh.

Mr. Salter, when questioning the witness concerning his idea as to the validity or otherwise of the agreement said : "I think the letters forming this contract were stamped."

The Official Referee : You had better not say that aloud. (Laughter.)

Dr. William Inglis Clark, scientific partner of defendant firm, was next called. In answer to Mr. Salter he enumerated his qualifications, and corroborated Mr. Salter's statements in opening regarding defendants' capsule business. They had a regular compound for their gelatin mass for all capsules for England and temperate countries, and they had another gelatin mass of different composition for tropical and semi-tropical countries. Having given the percentages of these respective compositions as well as of the composition for Dr. Dixon, the witness said that in the home mass and Dr. Dixon's export mass they employed preparation of glucose, which they had used for ten years as the result of about fifty experiments, and these results had been most satisfactory, enabling them to obtain greater flexibility.

WEDNESDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Dr. F. W. Passmore, of Helbing & Passmore, was called on Wednesday, and stated that defendants consulted him in February 1911, and supplied him with samples of the material used by them and some empty capsules used for both home and export. Witness placed some of the samples in bottles, and in about ten days they began to mould. Another portion he kept in closed cardboard boxes just as they arrived and they had remained perfectly good to this day, having been for twelve months in the boxes. Witness was of the opinion that the mould was due to the exposure of the capsules in a moist atmosphere, for an atmosphere saturated with moisture occasioned mould. He had also examined samples of the gelatin mass submitted to him. He had found that it contained 32 per cent. of water and 9 per cent. of glucose but he did not determine the percentage of gelatin. The mass of material had been left in his room, and showed no sign of mould. Witness had made numerous experiments, but had failed to find anything wrong with the gelatin matter. In May 1911 he visited plaintiffs' office company with Dr. Clark, Dr. Dixon, and his solicitor. Witness took samples of capsuloids and examined them a week later. Witness then spoke in much detail concerning the condition of the different samples. Some of the were more or less decomposed, he said. Concerning the general point as to the wisdom or folly of using glucose in the gelatin mass for making capsules, witness said he discovered no difference between samples containing glucose and those containing no glucose so far as proneness to become mouldy is concerned. He had found that a mixture containing no glucose dried somewhat more quickly than one containing glucose in a dry atmosphere but, on the other hand, the mixture containing glucose dried more rapidly than the non-glucose mixture in an atmosphere at 60° F. Much more expeditious was the process of drying by sulphuric acid; it was better than drying by atmospheric air in a heated chamber, because the sulphuric acid abstracted the whole of the moisture and at the same time dried the capsules equally well all over. On the other hand, the process of drying in a heated chamber by ordinary air introduced from the outside

depended upon the quantity of moisture in the air. The radiator above caused unequal drying.

In answer to further questions, Dr. Passmore said that when once the filling mixture was made, it would be impossible to introduce the water equally to make a corporate mixture. But it did not follow that it would be impossible for water to leave it. He added that it depended upon the atmospheric conditions. The condition would be for excess of water to leave the hæmoglobin, and that excess would vary according to the atmospheric conditions. He thought that these experiments proved that oil was not a stopper to the escape of moisture.

In cross-examination by Mr. Mitchell Innes, K.C., Dr. Passmore said he could not say one way or the other whether any other manufacturer put capsules and capsuloids on the market that had glucose in them. He analysed many capsules, but he did not know the makers. It was quite obvious, he said, in answer to another question, that putrefaction in the various tubes had differed. He admitted that he could not point to a single case that showed the presence of putrefied hæmoglobin. In re-examination, the witness said he had not made experiments which had showed whether it were the hæmoglobin or gelatin, or both, that occasioned the putrefaction. Witness did not think that anyone could say that from the samples he saw.

Mr. Salter: Assuming that hæmoglobin decomposes, does it give off ammonia?—Yes.

The Official Referee: Supposing capsuloids, made by the defendants, travelled in these tins and shortly after their arrival after the journey from Edinburgh to London became mouldy, what would you attribute that to?—Moisture. The air in the tins would be saturated with moisture and so induce the condition indicated. Continuing, witness said that if some tins had arrived without any mould at all, it might have been that the tins were not saturated, or it might have been that the mould had not grown.

Dr. Inglis Clark, whose further examination had been deferred to meet the convenience of counsel, then re-entered the witness-box. He pointed out the advantages of glycerin and glucose as inducers of pliancy in the capsules, and also spoke of the necessity of water. The length of time occupied in drying, he pointed out, depended upon the kind of capsule and the atmospheric condition. The period ranged from two to six days. His firm employed cardboard boxes of different sizes for both home and export capsules. Their ordinary methods of manufacture had always been the same, and, according to his vast experience, he had found it work thoroughly well. The ratio of complaints was so small that probably his attention was not drawn to anything amiss once a year. He added that very soon during the running of the contract attention was called to the varying characteristics of the brews supplied them by plaintiffs. The chief variation as really in the fact that one batch remained homogeneous. In some cases the oil did not separate, in others five or six inches of oil would separate in a night. Then there were variations in colour. Some were red in appearance, and others were blacker. Some brews had no objectionable smell except the smell of the oil. Some were acid, and others—but not many—had a most disagreeable bitter odour. Answering further questions, the doctor declared there had been no change of foreman in their firm. They dried their capsules by the use of sulphuric acid. As a matter of fact, they had installed at Edinburgh a special drying chamber for Dr. Dixon's contract. All Dr. Dixon's home and export capsules had been dried in it from the time the chamber had been stalled. Witness added that a number of experiments had been carried out by him with Dr. Dixon's concurrence, and in which the latter appeared to be very much interested. Dr. Dixon had, in fact, sent him hæmoglobin for the purpose of making experiments. A number of these were made with different preparations of white oil, olive oil, and lanoline. Witness said that Dr. Dixon had indicated of a number of samples witness now produced.

On Thursday, February 1, the examination of Dr. Inglis Clark was continued, and had not been completed when we went to press. We reserve our report of this day's proceedings.

BANKRUPTCY REPORT.

Re Lillie Adeline Goss (trading as "Mrs. Berkeley"), 23A Old Bond Street, W., Face Specialist.—The public examination of this debtor took place last week before Mr. Registrar Hope in the London Bankruptcy Court. Her accounts showed total liabilities 1,365*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* (unsecured 1,102*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.*) and assets valued at 27*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.*, after deducting 192*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* for payment of the preferential claims. She was questioned by Mr. G. W. Chapman, Official Receiver, as to facts which we have already reported, and the examination was concluded.

Re Anne Cahill.—At the Dublin Bankruptcy Court on January 27, the examination of Anne Cahill, of Newcastle West, co. Limerick, was begun. Mrs. Cahill said that she had carried on the business of a chemist at Newcastle West on her own account since her husband's death. The premises were sold for 700*l.* to a Mr. Cahill (who was no relative of hers) in September last. Her brother bought the house furniture for 35*l.* cash, and he gave her a bill on the bank for 30*l.* more. At the date of the sale of the premises there was 470*l.* due to the bank, and after paying this and certain costs 219*l.* was left over, which, with the exception of 5*l.*, had been spent in paying off her other debts. The witness handed in a number of accounts and bills, and the further hearing was adjourned.

Re Dr. Andrew L. Bell, Dunfermline.—The public examination of this debtor was held in the Dunfermline Bankruptcy Court on January 25. In reply to Mr. J. R. Stevenson, solicitor, who appeared for the petitioning creditor, bankrupt said that his statement of affairs showed liabilities amounting to 2,103*l.* and assets valued at 483*l.*, leaving an apparent deficiency of 1,620*l.* He attributed his position to his connection with the Empire Guarantee Co., Glasgow, and his incapacity for work by reason of a poisoned hand. He lost over 12,000*l.* in the company. In 1909 he purchased for about 460*l.* the chemist's business in High Street, Dunfermline, known as the Central Pharmacy. That business had been transferred to a Miss Croan, Linacore, Lancashire, who was a second cousin of his mother, from whom he had borrowed 250*l.* in April 1906, as well as 350*l.* in 1907. He made over the pharmacy business to her under a holograph document on May 1, 1910, in exchange for the I.O.U. which he had given her. He explained that he and Miss Croan believed it undesirable that the manager of the pharmacy, Mr. Crosbie, should know that a change had taken place in the ownership. The reason was that Mr. Crosbie had been working there as manager, and the rumour got abroad at first that the business was his (Dr. Bell's). Mr. Stevenson: You say there was very little to remit to Miss Croan. Since the date of the sequestration have you received a credit balance of 45*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* from Crosbie?—Debtor: If I have it will be shown in my cash-book. He might have owed 2,760*l.* to the bank at the date of the transfer of the business. His professional income was about 600*l.* a year. The statutory oath was administered.

DEED OF ARRANGEMENT.

Willis, William, Alresford, Hants, Chemist, Trustee, R. Woodgate, 157 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. Dated, January 18; filed, January 23. Secured creditors, 1,544*l.*; liabilities unsecured, 2,298*l.*; estimated net assets, 760*l.* Assignment upon trust, etc., with power to trustee to continue debtor's business for a period of two years from date hereof, with a view to payment of a composition of 5*s.* in the pound by four equal instalments at six, twelve, eighteen, and twenty-four months respectively, one firm of creditors conditionally postponing their claim. When the said composition paid, estate to be re-assigned to debtor. The creditors include: W. Edwards & Son (195*l.*); Wright, Layman & Umney, Ltd. (17*l.*); S. Maw, Son & Sons (38*l.*); Stephen Smith & Co. (13*l.*); Allen & Hanburys, Ltd. (12*l.*); The British Drug Houses Ltd. (22*l.*); E. D. B. Butler, Alresford (25*l.*); Randall & Sons, Ltd., Southampton (14*l.*).

A Private Meeting

of the creditors of Mr. J. J. Elliott, chemist and druggist, Cheetham Hill, Manchester, has been held. A statement of affairs was presented showing liabilities of 1,016*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.*, of which 387*l.* 6*s.* was due to trade and private creditors, while the bank were also interested for 50*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.* In addition there were partly-secured creditors for 700*l.* The securities held were estimated at 121*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*, and the balance of 578*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.* was included with the ranking liabilities. The assets were estimated to realise 194*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.*, from which had to be deducted 42*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.* for preference claims, leaving net assets of 152*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.*, or a deficiency of

864*l.* Os. 1*d.* After discussing the position, the creditors passed a resolution confirming the deed of assignment executed to Mr. H. L. Price, I.A., Manchester. A committee of inspection was also appointed, consisting of the representatives of Messrs. J. Woolley, Sons & Co. and Messrs. Oldfield, Pattison & Co. The creditors are: The British Drug Houses, Ltd., London (16*l.*); W. & D. Gibbs, Ltd., London (12*l.*); Hagan & Woolam, Manchester (13*l.*); S. Maw, Son & Sons, London (12*l.*); Oldfield, Pattison & Co., Manchester (25*l.*); J. Woolley, Sons & Co., Ltd., Manchester (152*l.*); Yardley & Co., Stratford (11*l.*).

GAZETTE.

Partnerships Dissolved.

BOYD, S. McCORMICK, and THOMPSON, H. P., Harrogate, under the style of Drs. Boyd & Thompson.
SUTCLIFFE, W. G., and TREVES, F. B., Margate, physicians and surgeons.
TATE, H. W., and DAVIS, W. E., Askern Spa, Doncaster, veterinary-medicine proprietors, under the style of Tate & Davis.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

RECEIVING ORDERS.

MORRISON, J., Golder's Green Road, Hampstead, and Woburn, Beds, chemist.
LE VERRIER, C. B., formerly Wynberg, Fisherman's Walk, Southbourne, and Lansdowne Crescent, Bournemouth, lately Brookley Road, Brockenhurst, and Poole Road, Bournemouth, dental surgeon.

ADJUDICATIONS.

JONES, A. C. B., Luton Road, Chatham, surgeon.
MORRISON, J., 10 Golder's Green Road, Hampstead, Middlesex, and Woburn, Bedfordshire, chemist.
MUNRO, A. E., Mark Lane, and Old Church Road, Stepney, lately St. Dunstan's House, Cross Lane, Eastcheap, now residing Kyverdale Road, Stoke Newington, vinegar-merchant.

Scottish Failures.

MACNAUGHT BROS., chemists, 4 West Blackhall Street, Greenock, and MACNAUGHT, ARCHIBALD HAMILTON, the only known partner. Sequestration January 27 by the Sheriff of Renfrew and Bute at Greenock. Mr. Thomas R. Jacobs, 28 Cathcart Street, Greenock, is agent.
STEVENSON, JOHN, chemist and druggist, 82 Merry Street, Motherwell, has granted a trust deed in favour of Messrs. Wilson, Stirling & Co., 186 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, who will pay a first and final dividend to those creditors whose claims have been lodged and admitted.

Those Almanacs Again.

EACH year, for several years running, we have had occasion in January or February to call attention to disappointments which chemists have sustained in arranging for the supply of stocks of special almanacs, and this year the usual complaints are already beginning to come to hand.

What happens in these cases where complaints are received is something like this: A certain firm of almanac printers sends round a clever traveller (possibly more than one) about the middle of each year to book orders for almanacs for the year to follow. The chemist is left with the impression on his mind that he is to have 1,000, or it may be 2,000, copies of the almanac printed for him absolutely free of charge, the cost of production being defrayed, he supposes, by advertisements in the almanac of goods more or less in the chemist's line, by well-known advertisers. It does not occur to the chemist when giving the order that he himself will have to go to the trouble of getting these advertisement orders, and he does not discover his mistake till long afterwards when the almanacs have been taken in hand by the printers. A correspondence of an animated character follows, and very often the chemist, exasperated at the "misunderstanding," and not being sure of his legal ground, writes to the firm cancelling the order—too late.

One would think that an annual caution of this sort would have the effect of putting readers on their guard, and that they would insist on a clear understanding with the printers' representatives before they sign any contract, and so we are publishing the warning once more in the hope that possibly it may catch the eye of some of our friends who might otherwise have become "Misunderstanders" in 1912. Those who do not trouble to read it may possibly have themselves to blame if they give orders for "free" almanacs and then find that about the beginning of 1913 they have to pay a considerable and unexpected account for printing.—*Anti-Cutting Record.*

LIMITED COMPANIES.

New Companies Registered.

The letters P.C. mean Private Company within the meaning of the Companies Act, 1907, and R.O., Registered Office.

CURACHO, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 2,100*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over a formula for an embrocation for rheumatism, gout, etc., known as "Curacho." The first directors are C. F. Waters, M. Steinman, and H. E. Rogers (managing director).

CARDIFF LABORATORIES, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To establish laboratories in Cardiff, to carry on the business of analytical chemists, druggists, manufacturers of chemical and other preparations, etc. The first directors are P. N. Hooper, R. G. Longcroft, and W. Scott, Aberavon, Aberdare, analyst.

RADIUM REMEDIES, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 100*l.* Objects: To adopt an agreement with Harding Bros. (Engineers, Westminster), Ltd., and to acquire the benefit of certain patents covering a method of applying radio-active emanations and the like. The first directors are J. W. Williams and F. C. March. E. Cousins is the first secretary. R.O., Broadway Court, Westminster, S.W.

BIDWELL, BIDWELL & CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 25,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (12,500 preference). Objects: To take over the business of brush manufacturers carried on by A. Bidwell, T. A. Young, and E. P. Bidwell, and T. A. Young and E. P. Bidwell (as trustees of the late J. Bidwell), at Axminster, Devon, and London, as Bidwell, Bidwell & Co. The subscribers and first directors are T. A. Young, Seaton, Devon, brush manufacturer; A. Bidwell, Axminster, brush manufacturer; and E. P. Bidwell, Bush Lane House, E.C., brush manufacturer.

J. T. DAVIES (CHEMISTS), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 20,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (5,000 preference). Objects: To carry on the business of chemists and druggists and dealers in stationery and fancy goods as formerly carried on by J. Davies at 13 and 14 Walter Road, 23 Uplands Crescent, and 8 Temple Street, all in Swansea, as "J. T. Davies." The first directors are J. Davies (permanent), J. G. Isaac, J. F. Saunders, and W. T. Thomas, R.O., 13 Walter Road, Swansea. [Mr. J. T. Davies has formed his business into a limited company for family reasons. It is thirty-six years since he succeeded the late Mr. J. W. Finch in Walter Road, and he has since established the other businesses, one of which was carried on for many years by the late Mr. N. M. Grose, in Temple Street, Swansea, and is the oldest pharmacy in Swansea, having been established in 1793.]

Company News.

G. B. KENT & SONS, LTD.—The directors have declared a dividend of 2½ per cent. on the ordinary shares for the past year, placing 500*l.* to reserve, and carrying 429*l.* forward.

BOVRIL, LTD.—The report shows a net profit for the year 1911 of 148,324*l.*, as against 124,744*l.* in the previous year. After payment of the dividends of 5½ per cent. on the preference and 7 per cent. on the ordinary shares for the second half of the year, the directors recommend a dividend of 3 per cent. on the deferred shares, as against 2 per cent. for 1910, adding to reserve 22,500*l.*, as against 7,500*l.* for the previous year, and carrying forward 12,814*l.*

LONDON PRODUCE CLEARING-HOUSE, LTD.—The report for the year ended December 31 last shows a net profit of 39,904*l.*, which, added to 19,428*l.* brought forward, gives an available total of 59,332*l.* The directors propose to pay a dividend of 4*s.* 6*d.*, together with a bonus of 2*s.* per share on the ordinary share capital and 62*l.* 10*s.* per share on the founders' shares, both less income-tax, leaving a balance of 23,082*l.* to be carried forward. Owing to favourable conditions of the markets transactions both in coffee and sugar have again materially increased. Operations in pepper were started in April last and have been satisfactory, while a recent effort to attract business in rubber has not yet led to any development.

BRUNNER, MOND & CO., LTD.—An extraordinary general meeting was held on January 25 at the Exchange Station Hotel, Liverpool, in connection with the recent purchase of a controlling interest in the businesses of Messrs. Joseph Crosfield & Sons, Ltd., and Messrs. William Gossage & Sons, Ltd. Sir John Brunner, Bart., presided over a large attendance, and in moving the formal resolution that the capital be increased to 5,000,000*l.* by the creation of new shares, said they had bought from Crosfield's all of their ordinary shares, but not the debentures or preference shares, which remained with the present holders; from Messrs. Gossage they bought all the shares. Sir John assured the meeting that Brunner, Mond & Co. were perfectly satisfied with their bargain, and he need hardly assure them that the shareholders in the two smaller companies were also perfectly satisfied. The resolution was carried unanimously.

Liverpool Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting was held at the Royal Institution, Colquitt Street, on January 25. Mr. G. V. C. Last presided, and the other members present were Messrs. A. C. Abraham, H. Humphreys Jones (Hon. Secretary), H. Iomax, H. Collins, G. Underwood, L. Moreton Parry, J. H. Robinson, C. W. Cooke, A. H. Ellithorne, F. C. Coaling, G. H. Cole, G. Hardy, Jas. McInroy, E. G. Walton, T. Ashworth, P. H. Marsden, Harold Wyatt, Charles Huxtable, J. E. Whitaker, Geo. A. Moffat, T. S. Wokes, W. F. Laycock, J. S. Allan, W. Wellings, C. E. J. Sendall, E. Prebble, Martin S. Hughes, and J. W. Hawley.

NEW MEMBERS.—The following were elected: Messrs. S. S. Halford, J. H. Richards, H. H. Farrimond, A. G. Gale, J. S. Allan, J. L. Hirst, T. H. Corlett, F. W. Jackson.

INSURANCE REPRESENTATIVE.—Mr. R. Bremridge wrote asking the Association to nominate a pharmacist on the General Provisional Committee on the Insurance Act of the Pharmaceutical Society. Mr. G. V. C. Last was appointed.

ALTERATIONS IN RULES.—A number of resolutions and alterations of rules were submitted to the meeting by Mr. John H. Robinson and adopted. (See *C. & D.* January 13, index folio 37.)

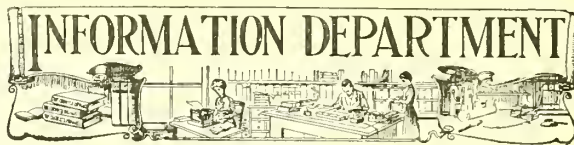
ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Secretary read the annual report, which was ordered to be printed and circulated. The Treasurer (Mr. W. Wellings) submitted his financial statement, which showed a balance in hand of 25*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.*

COUNCIL ELECTION.—A letter was received from Mr. T. Fell Abraham requesting that his name be withdrawn from the ballot for the Council election, owing to the state of his health. There were five vacancies, and the following were elected: Messrs. J. W. Hawley, W. F. Laycock, Prosper H. Marsden, L. Moreton Parry, and Dr. C. Symes.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.—Mr. Last, in delivering this, mentioned that the Association is now entering on its sixty-third session, and said that the interest which has been shown in the meeting demonstrates that the Association has yet a large reserve of vitality. The Liverpool Chemists' Association remained for forty years after its foundation as a purely scientific body, and it was not until after its amalgamation with the Registered Chemists' Trade Association that it began to consider matters of commercial interest. The increasing exactions of modern business demand that trade organisations should be as efficient as possible, and to this he attributed the general desire for reform which has been in evidence during the past few years. Mr. Last then followed in detail the steps which have led up to the series of resolutions before the meeting, and spoke of the importance of the proposed Business Committee, which in itself should be a powerful factor in extending the membership. This committee will take in hand the Shops Act and the regulation of retail prices. Much has already been done by the Association and the Proprietary Articles Trade Association in fixing a price basis, but he suggested that there is still room for a standard price for sundries. The Secretary of the Business Committee will keep a list of rare drugs and proprietary preparations, and of surplus stock, so that members can obtain these goods locally and promptly. Mr. Last then referred to the alterations in the rules, especially that which makes a member of Council ineligible for re-election under one year after his term of office has expired. He thought the constant change that will ensue will prevent the Council from becoming stereotyped. He looked with favour upon the idea of different districts running representatives for the Council. Regarding the change in respect to the provision of only one secretary in place of two, Mr. Last said there is a distinct understanding that each committee will have its own secretary. The revision to which the rules have been subjected is thorough, and he hoped that now the meetings would have time to devote to other subjects.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Last was proposed by Mr. T. S. Wokes, seconded by Mr. Prosper H. Marsden, and carried unanimously.

The training of a pharmacist is by no means complete with the passing of the Minor.—*S. F. Richardson (Grimsby).*



Postal Address:
C. & D. INFORMATION DEPARTMENT, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.
Telegraphic Address: "CHEMICUS LONDON."
Telephone No.: BANK 852 (two lines).

INFORMATION WANTED.

We would be obliged if any reader would inform us by post-card or telephone who are the makers or agents of the articles mentioned in the following inquiries:

- 56/5. "Metaferrose": makers.
- 55/38. Gammon's Lozenges: makers.
- 44/21. "Zulon" dog fluid: suppliers.
- 56/12. "Ung. Lithiandol": what is it?
- 131/28. "Ezee," for cleaning paint-work.
- 56/68. Maker of British-made chip boxes.
- 60/27. Buckley's pad for whooping-cough.
- 59/66. "Articol" capsules for gonorrhoea.
- 58/65. Cheap vials, 3-drachm and 6-drachm.
- 62/9. Strude's olive-oil soap (marked "Caifa").
- 56/21. "Brethezili" cigarettes (for asthma, etc.).

INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

During the past week we have answered inquiries as to the makers or sellers of the following articles. The information will be repeated to other inquirers who send to this Department a stamped and addressed envelope for the purpose.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Brodie's corn-salve, 59/23 | Neuro, 54/9 |
| Chip-boxes, 56/68 | Nuclein, 56/21 |
| Clark's cough-mixture, 56/110 | "Omar" specialties, 42/41 |
| Cottonseed oil, 57/7 | "Orchid" razor, 59/22 |
| Darupan, 58/13 | Ortol, 57/74 |
| Dow Chemical Co. (address), 55/66 | Phosphor-ionic tablets, 60/28 |
| Drying-plant for chemicals, 60/29 | Purgen, 56/15 |
| "Ecor," 56/28 | "Regina" shoulder-brace, 56/4 |
| Ehrlich's "Salvarsan," 57/43 | Shop-round labeller, 54/55 |
| Eunatrol, 58/10 | Stomax, 57/15 |
| "Glebe" cane sugar, 54/140 | "Sudden Death" insect-powder, 54/14 |
| Harlan's (Dr.) Beauty Cup, 53/44 | Terpineol, 57/30 |
| Hasselby's silvering-fluid, 54/43 | Terrol, 57/27 |
| Huxley's Ner-Vigor, 54/900 | Thiooamf, 58/11 |
| Hygol, 56/11 | Tinfoils, plain and coloured, 58/41 |
| Insect-powder bellows, 58/69 | Ursol, 56/10 |
| "Japanese" toothache-drops, 57/11 | Von Heyden's agents, 58/4 |
| | Vials (special), 56/41 |
| | "Vyto-lac," 52/50 |
| | Window transparencies, 60/8 |

PRACTICAL RESULTS.

From an East Indian firm of manufacturing chemists and perfumers:

"We admit that we cannot adequately express in words the immense benefit that we derive from your Information Department."—(48/51.)

Edinburgh C., A., & A. Association.—A meeting was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, January 24, at 9.15 p.m., Mr. E. J. Brown, Ph.C. (President), in the chair. Mr. David Murray opened a debate on the question Should Pharmacy be Nationalised? He took the affirmative side, and was followed by Mr. E. O. Rowland, on the negative. The debate was also taken part in by Messrs. G. Cowie, Forret, Huddle, Hutcheon, and Hill, and the leaders having replied, it was found, on a division, that there was a majority of two in favour of the affirmative.

SCHEDULE OF POISONS.—We have reprinted our card containing the schedule of poisons according to the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, with a supplementary list of poisons prepared by our editorial staff. It also includes concise statements in regard to the law as to the sale of agricultural and horticultural poisons, mineral acids, soluble oxalates, and liquid ammonia. Copies of the card can be obtained from our office, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., at 4*d.* each, post free, or 3*s.* per dozen.

OBSERVATIONS & REFLECTIONS.

By Xrayser II.

The Winter Number

is, as usual, a very wonderful piece of work. It is possible that there are other trade and technical journals in this or other countries that produce special issues like this, but if so, I am not acquainted with them. Your Winter and Summer Numbers are triumphs of no ordinary kind from whatever point of view we look at them, and any comment on my part will seem a supererogatory piece of eulogy. I have on this occasion been more than usually interested in the advertisements, which are really a most valuable feature to working pharmacists. For one thing, I have been very forcibly struck with the rejuvenescence of many of our oldest firms. Take, for instance, that feature which we now regularly look for, "Maw's Page." I suppose the secret of the success of this page is simply that a bright, alert specialist has come along who can put the old familiar message in a novel and attractive setting. There is really nothing new in the subject-matter of the advertisements, but the striking way in which they are displayed arrests our attention and compels us to stop and read. A similar remark deserves in justice to be applied to scores of other advertisers, every one of whom spends an amount of care and thought and expense on this department which were undreamt of twenty years ago.

The Trade in Packed Specialities,

the development of which appears to be rapidly on the increase, is shown by the advertising to be an immense business. We have heard, till we are tired of listening to the tale, how the new Insurance Act is to kill the business in chemists' proprietaries. If there were anything in this cry, one would expect to have seen some evidence of it in the reduction of the number of houses catering for this class of trade, but the facts point altogether in the opposite direction. The advertisers are more numerous than ever, and we can well assume that these shrewd men of business have thought out this matter for themselves before they embarked afresh on a large expenditure of capital. Moreover, we see not only our old favourite firms, but new aspirants for our custom, all of which goes to prove that the future of the drug-business is not going to be of the sickly, anæmic character so frequently predicted. I have in this column often expressed the view that the Insurance Act will prove a boon to the drug-trade in more ways than one, and I offer this Winter Number in proof that the men most interested in the prosperity of the business are in entire agreement with me. I sometimes hear the opinion expressed that

Advertising "Branded" Articles

in trade journals does not pay. The main thing, these doubters say, is to convince the public that they must buy these goods, and when the demand has been created the chemist will be compelled to stock the goods whether he wants to or not. This argument does not appeal to me; the reverse is the case, for when I see a new preparation advertised to the public, I am prejudiced against it at the start. But let that same preparation be made familiar to me through the columns of my favourite trade journal, and I look on it with much less unfriendly eyes. A speciality so introduced has an infinitely better chance of success than one advertised to the public alone. As a shopkeeper, I consider the latter a

singularly short-sighted policy. In the same way I think that many well-known firms are constantly losing business by not advertising to the trade. We naturally prefer to support the firm that is enterprising enough to go to the trouble and expense of making the appeal. It is always worth a manufacturer's while to secure the goodwill and the co-operation of the retailer.

The Store of Good Things

in the literary pages of the Winter Number is too rich for adequate treatment in what remains of my space. The articles of antiquarian interest are so provokingly accurate that one who is nothing if not critical can find little to say about them. Mr. Bailey's contribution is extremely interesting, and should set other proprietors of historic pharmacies rummaging among their old prescription-books. All the articles mentioned in the paragraph relating to Mr. Coutts (p. 163) are old friends that are easily identified. Lancaster Black Drop (sometimes called Quaker's Black Drop) was usually, I think, prepared from Dr. Armstrong's recipe; it was composed of opium, verjuice, nutmeg, and saffron. Conserv. Cynobati (properly Cynosbati) is conserve of hips; ext. cathartic. is ext. coloc. co.; calx antim. illot. is unwashed diaphoretic antimony; syr. balsam. is syrup of tolu. The other names need no gloss. "Colchicum as a cholera remedy," in the Coloured Supplement, is another interesting item. Colchicum was used for gout in France before Husson's time, but, says Lemery, externally only; its first official preparation in this country was the oxymel of the P.L. of 1788, which was copied from Stoerck. It was used mainly as a diuretic, and as an expectorant in asthma.

The Word "Vinegar,"

like "poison," seems never to have been authoritatively defined. Dictionary definitions vary greatly, and the Board of Trade, in the letter you printed on January 13, only say what in their opinion vinegar offered for sale should be. A statement of opinion in which the word is used first of a preparation "derived wholly from alcoholic and acetous fermentations," and immediately afterwards of one containing "any added acetic acid which is not wholly the product" of such fermentations, is scarcely a definition, and we cannot wonder that people are still asking

"What is Vinegar!"

The question is not of much practical importance, since the opinion of the Board of Trade will doubtless guide magistrates in their decisions, but it is, nevertheless, interesting. Etymologically "vinegar" means sharp or sour wine (*vinum acre*, *vin aigre*), and, until a comparatively recent period, it was used only with reference to that source, what we now call malt vinegar having been known as *alegar* or *beeregar*. The latter name is, I believe, no longer in use even in dialect, but "alegar" still survives in country places, and I have myself been asked for it. Originally, no doubt, both these names meant simply ale or beer that had "gone sour" (just as *vin aigre* meant such sour wine as is still drunk as a beverage in some countries), but gradually they obtained the distinctive meaning of malt vinegar. Similarly *oxos* among the Greeks, and *acetum* in Latin, though both acquired the meaning of vinegar, originally meant sour wine; *acetum*, indeed is properly the past participle of *acco*, and *acetum vinum* (soured wine) would no doubt be the phrase employed until *acetum* took the position of a substantive. *Alegar* was considered inferior to vinegar, and was not used officially even as a source of *acetum destillatum*, but it was prescribed when the superior article could not be obtained. They were both a good deal used in old practice, especially against poisons, infectious fevers, and plague.

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 VETERINARY COUNTER PRACTICE. (5th Edition.) 4/-, by Post 4/4.
 THE CHEMIST-OPTICIAN. 4/-, by Post 4/3.
 ELEMENTARY DISPENSING PRACTICE. 3/6, by Post 3/9.
 DISEASES AND REMEDIES. (New Edition.) 3/-, by Post 3/3.
 PRACTICAL METHODS OF URINE ANALYSIS. 2/6, by Post 2/9.
 THE CHEMISTS' MEDICAL DICTIONARY. 2/6, by Post 2/8.
 GUIDE TO PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONS. 2/6, by Post 2/9.
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Editorial Articles.

The Opium Convention.

THE full text of the International Opium Convention—which, as intimated in last week's issue, was signed at The Hague on January 23 by twelve of the Powers—appears on p. 193. The translation we publish has been made by the Conference Bureau, and is unofficial, the original French text being regarded as the only official language. For all practical purposes, however, we are assured that our copy is a fair and accurate interpretation of the conclusions arrived at. It will be seen that the Convention confirms the anticipations already given in this journal. Briefly, the twelve contracting Powers have agreed among themselves to control the production and distribution of raw, prepared, and medicinal opium, morphine, cocaine, and their derivatives. These proposals are contained in the twenty-five Articles, of which Nos. 9 to 14 (Chapter III.), dealing with morphine, cocaine, etc., are of paramount interest to the drug-trade, inasmuch as the Powers have agreed to enact pharmacy laws and regulations to limit the manufacture, sale, and use of these drugs to medical and legitimate uses only. With this object they will endeavour to control or cause to be controlled all those who manufacture, import, sell, distribute, and export morphine, cocaine, and their respective salts. Article 10 (a) limits the manufacture of such drugs to authorised premises which will be under the supervision of the State; a licence will be required to manufacture, and a register will be kept of the quantities manufactured, imported, exported, sold, or transferred. Medical prescriptions and sales made by duly authorised pharmacists are exempt from these rules. Under Article 11 the Powers agree to take measures to prohibit internal commerce in such drugs to non-authorised persons. Article 14 specifies that the law shall apply to all opium preparations (including the so-called anti-opium remedies) containing more than 0.2 per cent. of morphine or more than 0.1 per cent. of cocaine; to heroin, its salts and preparations containing more than 0.1 per cent. of heroin, and to every new derivative or alkaloid which might give rise to similar abuse. The Chinese Government is to make its own pharmacy laws for the sale of these drugs. Statistical information is also to be furnished to the Netherlands Minister for Foreign Affairs concerning opium, etc., and those Powers not represented at the Conference (see Text) are to be permitted to sign the Convention, and the Netherlands Government is to give notice every month to all the signatory Powers of each supplementary signature. If by December 31, 1912, all the signatures of the invited Powers have not been secured, then those who have already signed will be invited to The Hague to "examine into the possibility of depositing their ratifications." It is also provided that the laws, regulations, and other measures shall be drawn up not later than six months after the going into effect of the Convention, the date to be fixed by agreement between the signatory Powers at the instance of the Netherlands Government. The Powers who have approved

the Convention are Germany, the United States, China, France, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Holland, Persia, Portugal, Russia, and Siam. It will be recalled that Turkey declined to participate in the Conference, and while this is so it is difficult to see how any satisfactory solution of the opium problem can be found that excludes consideration of the Turkish cultivation. The decisions arrived at by the Conference will no doubt in due course be communicated to the Turkish Government, and their co-operation requested. We should not be surprised if pressure were brought to bear in order to induce Turkey to take restrictive measures regarding opium-cultivation, and if these should not be successful, Turkish opium, if the spirit of the Convention is to be carried out successfully, must necessarily be subjected to strict control. Persia, being in sympathy with the objects of the Convention, will no doubt make some effort at bringing cultivation under control, but in view of recent events in that unhappy country it does not seem likely that any definite steps can be taken for a lengthy period. We reported during the Conference proceedings that Russia claimed to be an opium-growing country, from which the inference is drawn that the Persian opium trade may eventually fall into her hands. Looking at the opium question as a whole, it is a melancholy fact that the economic conditions of the chief growing countries—Turkey, Persia, and China—are not propitious for bringing cultivation under close control.

National Insurance Act.

FROM the point of view of the retail drug-trade little progress is being made with the arrangements under the medical-benefit section of the National Insurance Act, so far as the dispensing and supply of medicine are concerned, except that the Committee representing all sections of the trade in England, Scotland, and Wales which the Pharmaceutical Council is to appoint is being steadily built up. We understand that the first object of the Council was to get together a body which would make for unity of action in the three countries on the leading principles that are common to all. It is, therefore, unfortunate that at the outset there is some misunderstanding as regards Scotland, where a special Committee, with powers, is desired to negotiate with the Scottish Commissioners. Such a Committee is undoubtedly desirable, and there is nothing to prevent chemists in Scotland forming one independent of the Pharmaceutical Society. This is actually suggested, and the almost unanimous decisions come to by chemists in different parts of Scotland leave little hope for anything else being done. It may be pointed out, therefore, that a National Committee of Pharmacists acting independently of the Pharmaceutical Society cannot have the advantage of the use of the Society's funds, officers, and organisation. On the other hand, as far as we can gather, there is no desire on the part of the Pharmaceutical Council to prevent the formation of a Special Scottish Committee under the regis of the Society. The difficulty which has arisen appears to be one of procedure rather than policy; the Council had decided upon forming the Three-Countries Committee first, and afterwards sub-committees representative of different parts of the country, Scotland included; while the North British Branch had independently come to the conclusion that a Committee for Scotland is the first necessity with them. At the last Council-meeting it was reported (*C. & D.*, January 13, index folio 59):

The Committee considered certain suggestions from the General Purposes Committee of the Executive of the

Society's North British Branch in regard to a Scotch Committee for dealing with insurance questions coming within the scope of the Scottish Insurance Commission. *The Committee thought that the Provisional Committee referred to in the foregoing paragraphs would be enabled to deal with this point quite satisfactorily.*

The italics are ours. In view of this specific statement following upon the recommendations of the Executive we have some difficulty in realising the occasion for difference. It has been demonstrated more than once since the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain was founded that it cannot work in Scotland without the co-operation of a representative body of its members there, and the present occasion—when division amongst chemists would be fatal to their interests under the National Insurance Act—is not one for a fresh demonstration of a proven fact.

On the medical side interesting developments are imminent, and the position will require the closest attention of our pharmaceutical authorities. The "British Medical Journal," January 27, contained letters which had passed between the Assistant Secretary of the National Health Insurance Joint Committee and the Acting Medical Secretary of the British Medical Association, regarding a proposed Conference with representatives of the medical profession on February 2. The Assistant Secretary of the Joint Committee in the first letter, dated January 24, stated that the Commissioners

"have decided, for their assistance in bringing the Insurance Act into operation, to take the earliest opportunity of personally conferring with representatives, widely selected, of the chief sections of the community specially concerned. Conferences with representatives of prospective insured persons have already taken place, and it is considered that the time has now arrived when it would be of material assistance to the Commissioners to obtain, in a conference, suggestions from representatives of the medical profession on certain important questions of procedure preliminary to bringing the Act into operation."

The letter proceeded to invite the British Medical Association to appoint twenty members selected from England, Scotland, and Wales to attend the Conference, stating that

"The point which it is specially desired to discuss relates to the selection of the medical members of the Advisory Committee, by whom the Commissioners must be advised in the framing of regulations in accordance with Section 53 of the Act; and the Commissioners will also be glad to hear the views of those present on other matters of procedure in bringing the Act into operation which the representatives of the medical bodies may desire to bring forward."

When this letter was delivered the State Sickness Insurance Committee of the British Medical Association was in session, and a reply was at once sent asking the proposed Conference not to be held until after the Special Representative Meeting of the Association, which is to be held on February 21 and 22. To this, however, the Commissioners could not assent, and a reply was sent which stated that

"the principal purpose for which the Conference has been convened would be defeated if it were postponed as suggested, because the Committee must under the Insurance Act proceed to appoint an Advisory Committee without avoidable delay, in order that the preparation of Regulations may be proceeded with. The Advisory Committee must include medical practitioners who have had experience of general practice, and the Commissioners would think it desirable to include other members of the medical profession. They would much value the assistance which they could obtain from such a Conference as has been proposed in arriving at a decision as to the best method of selecting such practitioners, and they would greatly regret to be deprived of any assistance from the British Medical Association in this respect. . . . In previous Conferences of the kind (which I may say have in no case been public), no expression of opinion has been regarded as committing the organisation to which the speaker uttering such opinion belongs. This has not prevented the Conferences from affording great assistance to the Commissioners, and it is understood that they were found useful by those who

attended. Certain important societies which took part in the Conferences that have already been held by the Commission had in contemplation meetings analogous in character to the Representative Meetings to which you refer, in which the policy of the Societies on important questions affecting them under the Act would be determined. It was found, as the Commissioners have subsequently learnt, that the explanations elicited in the Conference were of material assistance to them in preparing for such meetings, and that on the other hand the attitude of the Society was in no sense prejudiced by the fact of persons nominated by it having taken part in the Conference convened by the Commission."

The Association Committee accordingly resolved to refer the invitation of the Council, which met on Wednesday of this week, with an expression of opinion, by a majority, in favour of accepting the invitation. Invitations have also been sent by the Commissioners to the General Medical Council, the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, the Reform Committee of the British Medical Association, and other medical bodies. The following have declined the invitation: The Royal College of Physicians (London), the Council of the British Medical Association (until after the Representative meeting), the Reform Committee, the Royal College of Surgeons (Edinburgh), and the London and Counties Medical Protection Society, Ltd. The General Medical Council is doing nothing in the matter as it is outside its purview, but is not antagonistic. These refusals are not necessarily evidence of hostility. It is known that the Commissioners have received numerous applications from medical men for the Advisory Committee positions, and medical bodies are not likely to be envious of the job of selection. There are indications that the views of extremists who are opposed to the Act have ceased to carry weight. "The Lancet" of January 27, referring to its report of occurrences during the week previous, said

"the members of the medical profession are preparing themselves to meet the situation that has been created by the National Insurance Act in a manner creditable to themselves and useful to the community, and it is becoming certain that many divergencies of opinion are more apparent than real."

So far as pharmacy is concerned little or nothing will be done until the Commissioners settle with the representatives of the medical practitioners.

Ships' Medical Scales.

As noted last week, the revised scales of medicines and medical stores and instruments for merchant vessels issued by the Board of Trade under Section 200 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, has been issued. We gave in the CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, August 26, 1911, p. 346, particulars of the scale for merchant ships as recommended by the Revision Committee, and on comparing the new regulations we find the recommendations have been adhered to with a few exceptions. The alterations on the table published on p. 347 of the CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, August 26, 1911, are as follows, and should be noted by chemists of seaport towns: Friar's balsam, the proportion for ships carrying forty-one men and boys and upwards is 12 oz. instead of 10 oz., as recommended by the Revision Committee. The amounts of olive oil for "twenty-one to forty men" and "forty-one and upwards" are 12 oz. and 16 oz. respectively in place of 16 oz. and 24 oz. Opodeldoc has to be carried in the proportions of 16 oz. and 24 oz. respectively for "twenty-one to forty men" and "forty-one and upwards," the Revision Committee having placed these at 10 oz. and 12 oz. The only other alteration is in regard to boric acid ointment, the four proportions being now 4 oz., 8 oz., 12 oz., and 16 oz., in place of 4 oz., 6 oz., 8 oz., 10 oz. The recommendation has been adopted to call the attention of persons supplying medicines and medical stores for use on board ship to Sub-section 7. This places the fine at "not exceeding 20*l*." to which per-

sons are liable who "sell, keep or offer for sale any medicines or medical stores for use on board ship which are of bad quality."

English Lavender Oil.

It is well known that this oil, like whisky, improves on keeping, but why has not been accurately determined until now. In the current issue of the "Perfumery Record" Messrs. E. Theodore Brewis and John C. Umney go very fully into the subject, giving many analyses by themselves and others by Dr. F. W. Passmore. As a result they conclude—

1. That the actual age of lavender oil has no direct bearing upon its composition.
2. That the changes that do occur are not even dependent upon season.
3. That the changes that occur are not by any means uniform.

The only possible explanation of the change occurring in certain samples without any distinct relation either to season or other points is according to the percentage of water remaining in the oil, and this percentage is a matter of some importance. It is reasonable to suppose that oxidation of terpenes proceeds more rapidly in presence of moisture, although the oxidation does not appear to affect materially the esters and alcoholic constituents, since they can be recovered almost unchanged by steam-distillation.

It may be recalled that it is customary for some pharmacists to add a small proportion of alcohol to new oil before storage, and it would be interesting to know what effect this has on the composition of old lavender oil.

NEW BOOKS.

Any of these books printed in the United Kingdom can be supplied, at the published price, to "C. & D." subscribers on application (with remittance) to the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C. These notes do not exclude subsequent reviews.

Chemical Manufacturers' Directory of England, Wales, and Scotland, with some of the Firms in Ireland, 1912. 8vo. Bds. 2s. 6d. net. (Simpkin.)

Gooch, F. A., and Browning, P. E. *Outlines of Qualitative Chemical Analysis.* 3rd edit. Cr. 8vo. 5s. 6d. net. (Chapman & Hall.)

Thorpe, Sir Edward. *Dictionary of Applied Chemistry.* Rev. edit. Vol. I. Royal 8vo. 45s. net. (Longmans.)

The Prescriber: A Monthly Journal Dealing with Therapeutics, Pharmacology, and the Newer Remedies. Edited by Thos. Stephenson, F.R.S.E., F.C.S. Vol. v. 8½x5½. Pp. 330. ("The Prescriber," 137 George Street, Edinburgh.) [The volume for 1911 makes a useful book for the pharmacist's library from the fact that references are especially given to new remedies and modern therapeutical methods. The paragraphs are written in a manner which shows that considerable trouble has been taken to present the information in as concise a manner as possible. We are not surprised to hear that quite a number of chemists subscribe to the paper.]

The Chemists' and Druggists' Year-Book and Directory for Scotland. Edited by J. P. Gilmour, Glasgow. (Munro & Co.) [This is a new venture in the form of an octavo-book, which contains the following articles: Phases of Pharmacy in 1907 and some Forecasts for 1912 (eleven pages, in which the National Insurance Act is the chief item); A Digest of Pharmacy Law, and other legal information such as is given in our Diary (somewhat free use having been made of the General and Mercantile Law of our Diary); an article on Capsule-making, by Mr. J. A. Forret; one on advertising, and Mr. Gilmour's "Counter Etiquette and Ethics," reprinted from the *C. & D.* These are the chief contents of general interest. The matter pertaining to Scotland consists of particulars of the local Chemists' Associations, with portraits of the principal officers, this being prefaced by a portrait and personal particulars of Sir Edward Evans, J.P., President of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, which is to meet in Edinburgh this year. There are also particulars of official and unofficial pharmaceutical organisations of Great Britain, educational information, lists of medical specialists in Scotland and medical institutions; as well as directories of wholesale and retail chemists and druggists in Scotland. It is a production creditable to the editor and the publishers.]

International Opium Convention.

THE annexed photograph was taken on the occasion of a luncheon given by Mr. J. T. Cremer, President of the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce, to the members of the Conference at his castle, "Duin en Kruidberg," near



BISHOP BRENT (President). SIR LIANG CH'ENG. MR. J. T. CREMER.

Haarlem. Bishop Brent, of the Philippine Islands, made a very able and genial president. The middle figure, his Excellency Sir Liang Ch'eng, is Envoy Extraordinary at Berlin, and was the first Chinese delegate at the Congress, while their host, Mr. J. T. Cremer, is a former Netherlands Minister for the Colonies and the first Netherlands delegate to the Congress.

Full Text of the Convention.

The following is the English text of the Convention signed at The Hague on January 23:

The High Contracting Powers* being desirous to take one step further in the way marked out by the International Commission at Shanghai in 1909,

resolved to pursue progressive suppression of the abuse of opium, morphine, cocaine, as well as drugs prepared or derived from these substances giving rise or which may give rise to analogous abuses;

in view of the necessity of and the mutual profit in an international understanding on this point;

being convinced that they will meet in this humanitarian effort the unanimous adhesion of all the nations interested,

have resolved to conclude a Convention with this end in view, and have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries, to wit:

Who after having deposited their full powers in good and due form are agreed as to that which follows:

CHAPTER I.

Raw Opium.

Definition. By raw opium shall be understood: the spontaneously coagulated sap obtained from capsules of the soporific poppy (*Papaver somniferum*), and which shall not have been submitted to any but the processes necessary to the packing and the transportation thereof.

* Germany, United States, China, France, Great Britain and Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Persia, Portugal, Russia, and Siam.

Article 1.

The Contracting Powers will enact such laws or regulations as shall prove efficacious in controlling the production and distribution of raw opium, unless existing laws or regulations shall already have regulated the question.

Article 2.

The Contracting Powers shall limit, in taking into account the differences existing in their trade conditions, the number of towns, ports or other places through which the importation or exportation of raw opium shall be permitted.

Article 3.

The Contracting Powers shall take measures:

- (a) to prevent the exportation of raw opium to countries which shall have prohibited the entry thereof, and
- (b) to control the exportation of raw opium to countries who shall have limited the importation thereof,

Unless existing measures have already regulated the matter.

Article 4.

The Contracting Powers shall issue regulations to provide that every package containing raw opium destined for exportation shall be marked in such a manner as to indicate its contents, providing the consignment shall exceed 5 kilograms.

Article 5.

The Contracting Powers shall not permit the importation and exportation of raw opium except through duly authorised persons.

CHAPTER II.

Prepared Opium.

Definition. By prepared opium shall be understood:

The product of raw opium obtained by a series of special processes, and by dissolution, boiling, heating and fermentation in particular, and which is meant to be made into the form of an extract suitable for consumption.

Prepared opium comprises dross and all other residues of smoked opium.

Article 6.

The Contracting Powers shall take measures for the gradual and efficacious suppression of the manufacture, the internal traffic in and the use of prepared opium in so far as the different conditions peculiar to each nation shall allow of this, unless existing measures have already regulated the matter.

Article 7.

The Contracting Powers shall prohibit the importation and exportation of prepared opium; however, those nations which are not yet ready to prohibit the exportation of prepared opium at once, shall prohibit such exportation as soon as possible.

Article 8.

The Contracting Powers which shall not yet be prepared to prohibit the exportation of prepared opium at once:

(a) shall limit the number of towns, ports, or other places through which it shall be possible for prepared opium to be exported;

(b) shall prohibit the exportation of prepared opium to the countries which now prohibit, or which shall later prohibit the importation thereof;

(c) shall prohibit, in the meanwhile, that any prepared opium be sent to a country which desires to limit the entry thereof, unless the exporter shall conform to the regulations of the importing country;

(d) shall take measures to the effect that each package exported containing prepared opium shall bear a special mark indicating the nature of its contents;

(e) shall not permit the exportation of prepared opium except through the agency of persons especially authorised.

CHAPTER III.

Medicinal opium, morphine, cocaine, etc.

Definition. By medicinal opium shall be understood:

raw opium which shall have been heated to 60 degrees Centigrade whether or not powdered or granulated, or whether or not mixed with neutral substances, and which shall not contain more than 10 per cent. of morphine.

By morphine shall be understood:

the principal alkaloid of opium, expressed by the chemical formula $C_{17}H_{19}NO_5$.

By cocaine shall be understood:

the principal alkaloid of the leaves of *Erythroxylon Coca*, expressed by the formula $C_{17}H_{21}NO_4$.

By heroin shall be understood:

morphine-diacetyl, expressed by the formula $C_{21}H_{23}NO_6$.

Article 9.

The Contracting Powers shall enact pharmacy laws and regulations in such a way as to limit the manufacture, the sale, and the use of morphine, cocaine, and their respective salts to medical and legitimate uses only, unless existing

laws or regulations have already regulated the matter. They shall co-operate amongst themselves in order to prevent the use of these drugs for any other purpose.

Article 10.

The Contracting Powers shall endeavour to control, or to cause to be controlled, all those who manufacture, import, sell, distribute, and export morphine, cocaine and their respective salts, as well as the buildings where such persons exercise that industry or that commerce.

To this end, the Contracting Powers shall endeavour to adopt or to cause to be adopted the following measures, unless existing measures have already regulated the matter:

(a) to limit the manufacture of morphine, cocaine, and their respective salts to the premises and localities alone which shall have been authorised to this effect, or to keep themselves informed as to the establishments and places where such drugs are manufactured, and to keep a register thereof;

(b) to demand that all those who manufacture, import, sell, distribute, and export morphine, cocaine, and their respective salts shall be provided with a licence to carry on these operations, or shall make an official declaration thereof to the competent authorities;

(c) to require of such persons to register on their books the quantities manufactured, the importations, the sales or any other transfer and exportations of morphine, cocaine, and their respective salts. This rule shall not apply necessarily to medical prescriptions and to sales made by duly authorised pharmacists.

Article 11.

The Contracting Powers shall take measures to prohibit in their internal commerce all transfer of morphine, cocaine, and their respective salts to all non-authorised persons, unless existing measures have already regulated the matter.

Article 12.

The Contracting Powers, taking the differences in their conditions into account, shall endeavour to limit the importation of morphine, cocaine, and their respective salts to authorised persons.

Article 13.

The Contracting Powers shall endeavour to adopt, or cause to be adopted, measures to the end that the exportation of cocaine, morphine, and their respective salts from their countries, possessions, colonies, and leased territories to the countries, possessions, colonies, and leased territories of the other contracting Powers, except in case the person for whom the drugs are intended shall have received authorisations or permits granted in conformity with the laws or regulations of the importing country.

To this end every Government may from time to time give to the Governments of the exporting countries lists of the persons to whom authorisations or permits to import morphine, cocaine, and their respective salts shall have been granted.

Article 14.

The Contracting Powers shall apply the laws and regulations for the manufacture, importation, sale, or exportation of morphine, cocaine, and their respective salts:

(a) to medicinal opium;

(b) to all preparations (official and non-official, including the so-called anti-opium remedies) containing more than 0.2 per cent. of morphine or more than 0.1 per cent. of cocaine;

(c) to heroin, its salts and preparations containing more than 0.1 per cent. of heroin;

(d) to every new derivative of morphine, cocaine, or their respective salts or to any other alkaloid of opium which might after generally recognised scientific investigations give rise to similar abuse and to result in the same injurious effects.

CHAPTER IV.

Article 15.

The Contracting Powers having treaties with China (Treaty Powers) shall take, in concert with the Chinese Government, the measures necessary for the prevention of the smuggling, as well with respect to Chinese territory as with respect to their colonies in the Far East and the leased territories which they occupy in China, of raw and prepared opium, morphine, cocaine, and their respective salts, as well as of the substances indicated in article 14 of the present Convention. On its side the Chinese Government shall take analogous measures for the suppression of the smuggling of opium and the other substances hereinbefore indicated, from China to foreign colonies and leased territories.

Article 16.

The Chinese Government shall promulgate pharmacy laws for its subjects, regulating the sale and distribution of morphine, cocaine, and their respective salts and of the

substances indicated in article 14 of the present Convention, and shall communicate these laws to the Governments having treaties with China, through the intermediary of their diplomatic representatives at Peking. The Contracting Powers having treaties with China shall examine these laws, and, if they find them acceptable, shall take the necessary measures to the end that they be applied to their nationals residing in China.

Article 17.

The Contracting Powers having treaties with China shall undertake to adopt the measures necessary for the restraint and control of the opium-smoking habit in their leased territories, "settlements," and concessions in China, for the suppression *pari passu* with the Chinese Government of the opium divans or similar establishments which may still exist there, and for the prohibition of the use of opium in houses of amusement and of prostitution.

Article 18.

The Contracting Powers having treaties with China shall take effective measures for the gradual reduction, *pari passu* with the effective measures which the Chinese Government shall take to the same end, of the number of shops, intended for the sale of raw and prepared opium, which may still exist in their leased territories, settlements, and concessions in China. They shall adopt efficacious measures for the restraint and control of the retail trade in opium in the leased territories, settlements, and concessions, unless existing measures have already regulated the matter.

Article 19.

The Contracting Powers who have post-offices in China shall adopt efficacious measures to prohibit the illegal importation into China, in the guise of a postal package, as well as the illegal transmission from one locality to another in China through the intermediary of these post-offices, of opium, whether raw or prepared, of morphine and of cocaine and their respective salts, and of other substances indicated in article 14 of the present Convention.

CHAPTER V.

Article 20.

The Contracting Powers shall examine into the possibility of enacting laws or regulations making the illegal possession of raw opium, prepared opium, morphine, cocaine, and their respective salts liable to penalties, unless existing laws or regulations have already regulated the matter.

Article 21.

The Contracting Powers shall communicate to each other through the Netherlands Minister for Foreign Affairs:

(a) the text of the laws and the administrative regulations in existence which concern matters aimed at by the present Convention or enacted by virtue of these clauses;

(b) statistical information with respect to that which concerns the traffic in raw opium, prepared opium, morphine, and their respective salts, as well as all other drugs or their salts or preparations aimed at by the present Convention.

These data shall be furnished with as much detail and in as short a time as shall be deemed possible.

CHAPTER VI.

Final Provision.

Article 22.

The Powers not represented at the Conference shall be permitted to sign the present Convention.

To this end, the Netherlands Government shall invite, immediately after the Convention shall have been signed by the Plenipotentiaries of the Powers who have taken part in the Conference, all the Powers of Europe and of America not represented at the Conference, to wit to designate a Delegate armed with the full powers necessary for the signing of the Convention at the Hague.

The Convention shall be furnished with these signatures by means of a "Protocol of signature of Powers not represented at the Conference," to be added after the signatures of the Powers represented and indicating the date of each signature.

The Netherlands Government shall give notice every month, to all the Signatory Powers, of each supplementary signature.

Article 23.

After all the Powers, as much for themselves as for their possessions, colonies, protectorates, and leased territories, shall have signed the Convention, or the supplementary

* Argentine, Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chili, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Dominica, Ecuador, Spain, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Luxemburg, Mexico, Montenegro, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Roumania, Salvador, Servia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Protocol hereinbefore indicated, the Netherlands Government shall invite the Powers to ratify the Convention, together with this Protocol.

In case the signature of all the Powers invited shall not have been secured by December 31, 1912, the Netherlands Government shall immediately invite the signatory Powers who shall have signed on or before this date to designate Delegates to proceed to the Hague to examine into the possibility of nevertheless depositing their ratifications.

Ratification shall be executed within as short a time as possible, and shall be deposited at once at the Hague in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

The Netherlands Government shall give notice every month to the Signatory Powers of the ratifications which it shall have received in the interval.

As soon as the ratifications of all the Signatory Powers, as much for themselves as for their colonies, possessions, protectorates, and leased territories, shall have been received by the Netherlands Government, the latter shall give notice to all the Powers who shall have ratified the Convention of the date on which the last of such acts of ratification shall have been received.

The present Convention shall go into effect three months after the date mentioned in the Netherlands Government's notification, as indicated in the preceding article.

With regard to the laws, regulations, and other measures provided for by the present Convention, it is agreed that the drafts necessary to this end shall be drawn up not later than six months after the going into effect of the Convention. With regard to the laws, these shall also be proposed by the Governments to their Parliaments or legislative bodies within this same period of six months, and in any case at the first session which shall follow the expiration of this period.

The date from which these laws, regulations, or measures shall go into effect shall be the subject of an agreement between the Signatory Powers at the instance of the Netherlands Government.

In case questions shall arise relative to the ratification of the present Convention, or relative to the going into effect of the Convention, or of the laws, regulations, and measures which such Convention involves, the Netherlands Government, if these questions cannot be decided by other means, shall invite all the Signatory Powers to designate Delegates who shall assemble at the Hague to come to an immediate agreement on these questions.

Article 25.

If it should happen that one of the Contracting Powers should wish to denounce the present Convention, such denunciation shall be notified in writing to the Netherlands Government, who shall immediately communicate a certified copy in conformity with such notification to all the other Powers, informing them at the same time as to the date on which it received such notification.

The denunciation shall have no effect except with respect to the Power who shall have given notice thereof and one year after such notice shall have reached the Netherlands Government.

In witness whereof, the Plenipotentiaries have affixed their signatures to the present Convention.

Done at the Hague, January . . . 1912, in one single copy, which shall remain deposited in the archives of the Government of the Netherlands, and copies of which, certified in conformity, shall be delivered through diplomatic channels to all the Powers represented at the Conference.

British Pharmaceutical Conference.

THE research list for 1912 has been sent to us by the secretaries, with a reminder that a research fund exists from which grants are made in suitable cases. Some of the subjects are the same as published in the list in the "Year-Book," and several are noted as "already undertaken." The following are fresh subjects:

Aletris farinosa, cascara sagrada, senega, senna (leaves and fruit) require further systematic examination.

FORMATES.—The determination of the composition of the metallic and alkaloidal formates found in commerce is required.

CASEIN.—The suitability of various commercial protein products for pharmaceutical use requires investigation.

SOLUBLE CASEIN.—A process is required for the preparation of a soluble casein.

BAHIA PAREIRA.—Examination of the alkaloidal constituents is required.

POWDERED DRUGS.—A systematic microscopical examination of powdered drugs is required.

SPIGELIA.—Further investigation of the alkaloidal constituent is required.

Is cinnamic aldehyde extremely prone to oxidation under conditions such as prevail during steam distillation, as has been suggested?

What is the nature of the aldehydic constituent in liquor hamamelidis? (See "Year-book," 1911, p. 195.)

The investigation of drugs, such as taraxacum-root, by Bourquelot's method for the detection and isolation of easily hydrolysed glucosides.

Mr. Horace Finemore, Guy's Hospital, London, S.E., will send a copy of the complete list to any applicant. We are also asked to remind our readers that the Secretaries would be glad to receive early advice of proposed papers for the Edinburgh meeting.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.

NORTH BRITISH BRANCH.

A MEETING of the Executive was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on Friday forenoon, January 26, Mr. J. P. Gilmour, Chairman, presiding. It was reported that a complete list of divisional secretaries had been transmitted to the Council. The vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Richard Ker, Stranraer, had been filled on the recommendation of the local chemists by the appointment of his son, Mr. Wm. Ker. It was also reported that the Assistant Secretary had attended meetings of local Associations in Aberdeen, East Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Leith, Fifeshire, and Glasgow. All the meetings were well attended and eminently successful. A report of the General Purposes Committee which had reference to the National Insurance Act, the Shop Hours Act Closing Order for Dundee, Sale of Medicated Wines, New Regulations as to Poison-licences, and other matters was submitted and adopted. The Executive then went into committee to consider a communication from the Council and a letter from the Secretary with reference to the appointment of a General Provisional Committee, which the Council is arranging to deal with the setting up of a Standing Committee to consider details in connection with the administration of the

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT.

There were present for the purpose of conferring with the Executive representatives from the Aberdeen Pharmaceutical Association, the Dundee Pharmacists' Association, the Edinburgh Chemists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association, the Edinburgh District Chemists' Trade Association, the Fifeshire Pharmaceutical Association, the Forfarshire and District Chemists' Association, the Glasgow and West of Scotland Chemists' Association, the Greenock and District Chemists' Association, and the Leith and District Chemists' Association. A letter was received from the East Aberdeenshire Chemists' Association delegate, who was unable to attend. After a long conference the delegates withdrew. The Executive, on resuming, on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Fisher, adopted a resolution on the lines of the suggestions already forwarded to the Council by the Executive, and nominating as representatives of Scottish Local Pharmaceutical Associations on the Provisional Committee: James Pinkerton Gilmour, Glasgow; Thomas Stephenson, Edinburgh; and James Fowler Tocher, Peterhead, with instructions to them to explain the views of Scottish pharmacists, and endeavour to reach a settlement that will be generally acceptable, and to report to the Executive and the Scottish local Pharmaceutical Associations.

This was all the public business.

PROPRIETARIES IN BRITISH GUIANA.—The "British Guiana Official Gazette" of December 30, 1911, contains the text of a Bill which, it is stated, is proposed to be introduced into the Court of Policy to make provision for the payment of duty on patent and proprietary medicines in British Guiana. It is provided in the Bill that whenever any Tax Ordinance of the Combined Court imposes the payment of any duty on patent or proprietary medicines, the duty so imposed shall be collected by means of labels of prescribed pattern, denoting the amount of such duty, affixed to the bottles or other packages in which such medicines are contained.

WINTER SESSION.

Brief Records.

Accrington Pharmacists' Association.—At a meeting of pharmacists of Accrington and district held on Monday, January 29, it was unanimously decided to form a local Association. Mr. W. Thornber was elected President, Mr. Snell Treasurer, and Mr. A. J. Estley Secretary. During the evening Mr. Lord Gifford, of Blackburn, explained the National Insurance Act as it affects pharmacists, and he was heartily thanked. Votes of confidence and thanks were passed to the Pharmaceutical Council and Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., for their efforts in connection with the Act.

Middlesbrough Chemists' Association.—At the meeting held on Wednesday evening, January 24, Dr. Drake-Brockman gave a lecture, illustrated with lantern-slides, on "Colour Photography." After explaining, in simple terms, the theory of colour photography and the manufacture of plates, he threw upon the screen about 200 views, the photographs and the lantern slides being his own work. Dr. Brockman gave it as his opinion that plates of English manufacture are out of date, and that so far France is the only country that can supply a decent plate. He also said that a huge fortune awaited the artist who could depict nature as truly as colour photography. After the lecture light refreshments were provided, and musical items ably given by Mrs. Amor and Messrs. Stubbs and Yeomans. There was an excellent attendance.

Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association.—A meeting was held at Croydon Chambers, Regent Street, Cambridge, on Friday, January 26, Mr. E. H. Church (President) in the chair. Also present were: Alderman A. S. Campkin, Messrs. H. F. Cook, J.P., E. S. Peck, M.A., Titterington, Missen, Evans, Parson, B. S. Campkin, Williams, Course, Wood, and Mallett (Hon. Sec.). After some formal business had been disposed of, the members were invited to inspect and, if approved of, accept a bookcase which had been recently purchased and presented to the Association by the President. Alderman A. S. Campkin moved, and Mr. J. Evans seconded: "That the bookcase be accepted, with the best thanks of the Association." Mr. Church said it gave him great pleasure to provide the bookcase, and he hoped that the library would soon be in working order. It was decided to open formally the library on February 9. The Hon. Secretary undertook the duties of librarian, and consented to catalogue the volumes. It was decided to hold general meetings fortnightly for the remainder of the session.

Cambridge Junior Pharmaceutical Association.—A meeting was held at Croydon Chambers, Regent Street, Cambridge, on Wednesday evening, January 24. Among those present were Messrs. Course (Chairman), Titterington, Hammond, Laxton, Parker, Speakman, jun., Peake, George, Tyler, Dodgson, Atkins, and Williams (Hon. Sec.). Mr. Percy Pain read a paper on the microscope, its object being to serve as an introduction to the study of the microscope, and to rouse the interest of his hearers in branches of microscopy that are not in any way connected with pharmaceutical examinations. He suggested that students should get on good terms with the microscope and well acquainted with all its little ways. It has come to stay, and the chemist of a few years hence must be thoroughly conversant with it. During the evening many beautiful models were shown, together with a great variety of slides and several microphotographs. Mr. Pain was ably assisted by Mr. Tarns, from the Zoological Laboratories, who demonstrated during the reading of the paper, and was most cordially thanked for his delightful two hours' entertainment and instruction.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.—There was a good attendance at the meeting held at 73 Newman Street, London, W., on January 25. Mr. F. Naylor (President) occupied the chair. The company included Miss M. E. Buchanan and several other ladies, Dr. Walmsley, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Crossley-Holland, Messrs. Styles, W. Roberts, A. Haigh, E. H. Brittain, W. B. Faraday, P. B. Phillips, G. A. Tocher, and T. L. Beverley. The subject of the evening was a lecture on *Rubber*, by Miss A. Borrowman. The mode of collecting the latex of *Hevea brasiliensis* and other rubber trees was described, as also the methods for coagulating the caoutchouc contained therein, acetic acid being largely used in modern plantations. The lecturer also described in detail the manufacture of rubber goods and the process of vulcanisation. Miss Borrowman said that experiments with the Ostwald viscometer indicated that *Hevea* latex behaves in respect to viscosity as an emulsion rather than as a suspension, and that consequently the caoutchouc globules are liquid, and not solid. The lecture concluded with an account of the methods of loading up rubber. An interesting discussion followed, after which the Chairman, on behalf of the members, cordially thanked Miss Borrowman.

Cheltenham and Gloucester Pharmacists' Association.—The annual meeting was held at the Plough Hotel, Cheltenham, on January 25, Mr. J. A. Thomas (President) in the chair. There were also present Messrs. W. Barron, J. Fletcher, M. C. Mansbridge, T. T. Palmer, A. Hill, H. B. Clark, C. H. James, J. P. James, W. Minchin, W. H. Hampton, W. Palmer, T. Walton, T. T. Dolman, and W. H. Hill (Hon. Secretary). The Treasurer's report, which was adopted, showed a balance in hand of 10*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.* The Secretary's report gave particulars of the year's work, and attention was drawn to the number of extra meetings held in connection with the National Insurance Act and to the fact that the "Formulary" had been printed and circulated among doctors and members. The report was adopted. The following officers were then elected: *President*, Mr. M. C. Mansbridge; *Vice-Presidents*, Messrs. J. Fletcher and T. T. Palmer (for Cheltenham) and W. Hampton (for Gloucester); *Treasurer and Secretary*, Mr. W. H. Hill; *Assistant Secretary*, Mr. T. T. Dolman; *Committee*, Messrs. J. A. Thomas, H. B. Clarke, C. J. James, and W. Palmer (for Cheltenham), and Messrs. Minchin and Marchant (for Gloucester). Mr. A. Hill was re-elected auditor. One guinea was voted for the Benevolent Fund of the Pharmaceutical Society. A committee was formed to promote a whist-drive in Cheltenham during February.

Organisation Meetings.—A meeting of chemists was held at the Warwick Hotel, Redhill, on Wednesday, January 24, under the chairmanship of Mr. W. H. Fowler, when Mr. W. J. Uglov Woolcock spoke on the Shops Act, the National Insurance Act, and organisation. On the motion of Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Hocken, it was decided to form a Reigate, Redhill and District Pharmacists' Association, with Mr. W. H. Fowler Hon. Secretary *pro tempore*.—A meeting was held at Preston on Tuesday, and another at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, on Wednesday afternoon, January 31, over a hundred pharmacists attending, several of whom came ten and fifteen miles to be present. The members of the Council of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association did not attend. The chair was taken by Mr. Edmund White, B.Sc., F.I.C., supported by Mr. Rymer Young, both of whom spoke a few words on the desirability of making the best of the advantages of the Insurance Act. Mr. Woolcock spoke for an hour on the intricacies of the Act and the need for local organisation. Many questions were asked and answered by Mr. Woolcock in a very lucid manner. Mr. Harry Kemp proposed a resolution and vote of thanks, which was seconded by Mr. Joseph Bell, of Manchester. Several gentlemen expressed the opinion that it was very satisfactory to see that the Insurance Act had been the means of waking up the Pharmaceutical Society to the great needs of the pharmacists in general. Among those present were Messrs. Breeze, Cleworth, Edwards, Brown, Kemp, Bell, Bigott, Lewis, Flint, Swinn, Beal, Waddington, and Brooks. Mr. White said that this was the largest meeting which Mr. Woolcock had addressed, and he thanked those pharmacists present for attending in such large numbers. Mr. Rymer Young had to leave early to attend the Blackpool Pharmacists' dinner. A telegram was received from Mr. Glyn-Jones, M.P., regretting that a political engagement prevented him being present.

Public Pharmacists' and Dispensers' Association.—At the annual general meeting held at St. Bride Institute, London, E.C., on January 31, there was a much better attendance than usual, about twenty-five members being present. Mr. R. W. Lindsey occupied the chair. The Secretary, in his voluminous report, stated that much progress had been made during the year, and expressed the Association's indebtedness to the President (Mr. T. H. W. Idris). A register of public pharmacists had been instituted, some 1,500 public institutions and 700 pharmacists and dispensers being now included therein. Those who had not sent in their names were asked to do so. A Poor-law section of the Association had been formed, a meeting of which had been held to consider the advisability of asking the Local Government Board to revise their scale for dispensers in public institutions. It was decided to appoint a committee to prepare a memorial for presentation to the Board. Much work had been done, in co-operation with the National Union of Assistant Pharmacists, to amend the National Insurance Act so as to secure that the actual dispensing thereunder should be performed only by chemists and druggists. The Association had approached the Privy Council, suggesting the need of extending the regulations *re* the storing of poison to the dispensaries of public institutions. The Privy Council replied that the matter would have their careful attention in the event of legislation being introduced. Success had followed the Association's policy in approaching public bodies in order to get them to appoint registered chemists as dispensers. The Local Government Board had been communicated with, pointing out the desirability of the distribution of potent drugs being in the hands of competent persons, the fatal poisoning of two Hull Union patients with mercury-perchloride tablets being cited. In the ensuing

discussion, Mr. F. E. Bullen suggested that the Association run a candidate for the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, as he felt the Society did not look after the interests of dispensers; for instance, in 1862 the Army Council had a rule that Army compounders should be chemists and druggists, but that advantage had been lost. The Secretary replied that the register had been compiled with the object of knowing where they could rely upon votes. Mr. Welford raised the question of representation on the Standing Committee on Insurance. The Chairman replied that the Council had already approached the Society, and a reply had been received that their communication would be presented to the proper committee in due course, and the result would be communicated as soon as possible. The report was adopted *nem. con.* The Council was instructed to consider the advisability of instituting a dinner. The meeting desired that the members' appreciation of the untiring efforts of Messrs. H. H. Hewitt, J. H. France, and G. W. Gibson during the past year be recorded in the minutes. The Treasurer's report showed a credit balance of 10*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, compared with 10*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.* last year. The election of office-bearers resulted as follows: *President*, Mr. T. H. W. Idris, J.P.; *Chairman*, Mr. R. W. Lindsey, F.C.S.; *Vice-Chairman*, Mr. S. H. Leadbeater; *Hon. Treasurer*, Mr. H. H. Hewitt; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. Jas. H. France; *Hon. Secretary, Poor-law Section*, Mr. Geo. W. Gibson; *Council*: Messrs. F. Noad Clark, W. E. Miller, W. H. Windmill, Geo. W. Udall, H. C. T. Gardner, A. O. Elias, F. E. Bullen, W. E. Kinsman, R. Welford. A resolution was adopted reducing the subscription for members from 5*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.* for town members, and 2*s.* 6*d.* for country members.

Aberdeen Pharmaceutical Association.—A special meeting of members and non-members was held in Robert Gordon's College on Wednesday, January 24, for the purpose of considering the latest developments in the question of pharmacy service under the *National Insurance Act*. Mr. D. Anderson presided over an attendance of thirty-seven. Numerous communications between members of the Pharmaceutical Society and officials, as well as particulars of the actions of the North British Branch Executive, were submitted, so that members might be in a position to estimate the present situation. Ultimately the following resolution was submitted by Mr. Chas. Simpson, and unanimously adopted:

"That in view of the Government having appointed Scottish Insurance Commissioners to administer the 'National Insurance Act' in Scotland, it is the opinion of this meeting that a Committee should be appointed consisting of pharmacists in Scotland representative of all classes entitled to be placed on the panel for the dispensing of medicines, to act along with the North British Executive and to have power to deal directly with the Insurance Commissioners on all questions affecting their interests arising out of the administration of the Act. And further, that the North British Executive be asked to organise a mass-meeting of pharmacists in Scotland to discuss the whole question."

A meeting of Divisional Secretaries of the Pharmaceutical Society and officials of Associations of the North-East of Scotland was held in the West End Café, Aberdeen, on Wednesday, January 24. There were present Grand Provost Alexander (Banff), Messrs. J. F. Tocher (Peterhead), W. S. Taylor (Inverurie), J. R. Reith (Cults), A. Craig (North Aberdeen), and W. F. Hay (South Aberdeen), Divisional Secretaries; Mr. J. D. Christie (Old Meldrum, President East Aberdeenshire), Messrs. D. Anderson, C. Simpson, R. Leslie, and D. Ritchie, representing the Aberdeen Pharmaceutical Association; Mr. W. Giles (Vice-Chairman North British Executive), Mr. A. S. Weir (Kemnay), and Mr. John Cruickshank (Bucksburn). The meeting was called by Mr. J. R. Reith at the instigation of chemists in West Aberdeenshire for the purpose of organising the division and forming an Association, if possible, to look after their interests under the *National Insurance Act*, and further to consider what action should be taken meantime in the interests of the whole district relating to the Insurance Act. Mr. Anderson was called to the chair. Mr. Reith in his speech referred to the need for organisation and of past failure to raise the enthusiasm of West Aberdeenshire on account of sheer apathy on the part of chemists. He emphasised the urgent necessity for amending the position, particularly at this juncture, which was more favourable to the formation of an Association than any in the past. He complained of the unreliability of the Pharmaceutical Council meeting reports in the "Pharmaceutical Journal," and referred to the scale of charges prepared as a basis for discussion, pointing to the necessity of unanimity in this matter. A general discussion followed, after which the following resolutions were passed unanimously:

1. "That this joint meeting of divisional secretaries and officials of Associations of the North-East of Scotland resolves in every way where possible to co-operate with the Pharmaceutical Society in its efforts to secure the proper working of pharmacy service under the Insurance Act, and expresses the view that since there is a separate Board of Insurance Commissioners for

Scotland, instituted for the purpose of administering the Act in Scotland, a National Scottish Pharmaceutical Committee should be formed, elected by Scottish pharmacists to present their views to the Scottish Insurance Commissioners, in order to secure just and equitable terms for pharmacy service in Scotland."

2. "That this meeting also strongly advocates united action among pharmacists in Scotland, and towards this end recommends: (a) that a mass meeting of pharmacists in Scotland be held at an early date, and (b) that a circular be issued to pharmacists in Scotland inviting them to sign a declaration stating that they will abide by the decision of the majority of Scottish pharmacists as expressed by their representatives in all matters pertaining to pharmaceutical supply under the Insurance Act."

On the motion of Mr. John Cruickshank, the four West Aberdeenshire chemists present, Messrs. Cruickshank (Bucksburn), Reith (Cults), Taylor (Inverurie), and Weir (Kemnay), formed themselves into a committee for the purpose of organising West Aberdeenshire.

Glasgow and West of Scotland Chemists' Association.—A mass-meeting of chemists was held in Glasgow on Thursday, January 25, at 10.30 A.M., Mr. James Lennox presiding over a large attendance. The object of the meeting was to discuss the provisions of the Shops Act and of the National Insurance Act. Mr. J. H. Hart introduced the discussion on the *Shops Act*, the provisions of which he explained, especially as regards the obligation to give assistants a half-holiday once a week. He pointed out that if chemists agree to close their shops during the afternoon once a week, reopening again in the evening, it will be necessary either to allow the assistant the whole time from 1.30 A.M. or to give him another half-day that week. He did not think that the closing of the shops would injure chemists, as all kinds of shop-business would be suspended practically on the early-closing day. Out of twenty replies that he had received from chemists in regard to closing the half-day, only two wanted to reopen in the evening. The practical outcome of the discussion was the adoption of a motion by Mr. Peter Irvine, seconded by Mr. Carmichael, to the effect that Glasgow chemists should apply to the local authority for different districts for half-holiday closing-orders. An amendment that they should reopen in the evening failed to find a seconder. The discussion on the *National Insurance Act* was opened by the Chairman, who stated that one thing stands out prominently as the result of this Act—namely, that chemists in Great Britain were before it only official retailers of poisons, and now they are recognised as dispensers of medicines. He regretted that local Pharmaceutical Committees were not set up under the statute, and read the following recommendation which had been forwarded to the North British Branch by the Council of the Association:

"That the N.B. Executive get into touch with Local Associations in Scotland, suggest that they should hold mass meeting and appoint delegates to represent them at a conference of joint delegates. They also considered the question of a Pharmaceutical Committee, and are of opinion that as the English, the Welsh, and the Scotch Commissioners are to work independently, it will be more workable to have three separate Pharmaceutical Committees, who would be free to deal with their respective Insurance Committee. That co-ordination could be obtained by each Committee selecting some of their number to form a fourth body for the purpose of keeping the Committees in touch one with another, and are also of opinion that no one Committee should be subversive to any other or other two."

A letter was also read from the Pharmaceutical Society's Assistant-Secretary in Scotland, explaining the action of the Council and the suggestions with regard to the National Insurance Committee. In the discussion which followed, Mr. Carmichael suggested that three representatives from Scotland for the Provisional Insurance Committee are insufficient. Mr. J. Anderson Russell recognised that the Pharmaceutical Council are the right body to take the first move, and are anxious to do their best, but he doubted if the Council quite recognised the difference that exists between Scottish and English pharmacy. He considered it desirable that the Scottish arrangements under the Act should be looked after by a Scottish Committee. Mr. J. B. McVittae hoped that the Society would still make an effort to get representation on the Advisory Committee. Mr. W. L. Currie (Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society) explained the action of the Council, adding that the feeling in Scotland is very clear that Scottish chemists must select their own committee to deal with the Scottish Insurance Commissioners. Mr. J. Rutherford Hill (Assistant-Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society in Scotland) referred to the difficult and perplexing situation which chemists are faced with, and stated that it is of the utmost importance that pharmacists should stand shoulder to shoulder in working the Act. Mr. Thomas Guthrie was the next speaker, and he insisted that an independent Scottish Committee is necessary. He considered that the Provisional Committee of the Pharmaceutical Council could not possibly deal with Scottish questions. Mr. J. P. Gilmour advocated that delegates should be sent to the Provisional Committee, for the Pharmaceutical Council needs all the assistance chemists

can give. Ultimately it was decided to appoint delegates to confer with the North British Branch Executive, as suggested in a letter from the Branch to the Local Associations in Scotland, and Mr. Guthrie was appointed to represent the country members and Mr. Hart the town members. It appeared that the replies to questions submitted indicated that views similar to those in Aberdeenshire prevail.

Dinners.

The First Annual Dinner of the Glamorgan Valleys Chemists' Association was held at the Park Hotel, Pontypridd, on January 25. The President, Mr. Daniel Arnott (Pontypridd), presided over a gathering including Messrs. A. Hagon (Cardiff), F. W. Smith, C. W. Phippe, Emrys Evans (Aberdare), J. E. Thomas (Aberaman), D. W. Davies (Porth), J. H. Davies (Aberdare), D. George (Pentre), D. E. Davies (Treorchy), J. Davies (Tonypandy), H. W. Jenkins (Pentre), T. Ernest Jones (Pontypridd), W. Howard Thomas (Treforest), D. E. Lewis (Mardy), T. Thomas (Treharris), Hyatt Jenkins (Treherbert), and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. Oswald Davies (Pontypridd). An excellent repast was served, and, after honouring the loyal toast, that of the "Glamorgan Valleys Association" was given by Mr. Emrys Evans. Mr. Evans said that the trying times through which chemists are passing call for unity in their ranks. Until recent years Cardiff had practically the only Chemists' Association in Wales. The Glamorganshire Valleys had now got beyond the inceptive stages, and he looked forward with every confidence to a very strong organisation being established. The Pharmaceutical Council had asked the members to nominate one from their midst to act on the Standing Committee to deal with the Insurance Act. If they had not been united this course would not have been pursued, and now the members would be in the enviable position of having someone who would be able to give them first-hand information. Mr. Oswald Davies (Secretary), in replying, reviewed the financial position of the Association, which had a substantial credit balance. The attendance that evening fully repaid for any trouble which had been taken in forming the Association. Under the Insurance Act there was a possibility that unless they clearly and emphatically made demands as a united force, one or two might upset the whole arrangements by accepting conditions which the majority would reject. He urged close co-operation with the officials of the Insurance Standing Committee. Mr. David George, who also replied, said that the Insurance Act should make chemists work together more than ever. The President, in giving the toast of the "Pharmaceutical Society," coupled it with the name of Mr. A. Hagon, who, in his reply, told the company of the work done by the Society. He said that the Insurance Act would raise pharmacy to a higher standard, and chemists were going to reap advantages from it if they exercised common-sense and if they did not strive to get too much. The toast of "The Visitors and the Press" was submitted by Mr. Thomas (Treharris). There was also a discussion of a private character. The appointment of a local member to the Standing Committee on National Insurance was deferred until the general meeting. A musical programme was rendered by Messrs. T. Williams, Thomas (Treharris), and others.

Sir Edward Evans, President of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, was the principal guest of the North Staffordshire Chemists' Association at their annual dinner held at the Grand Hotel, Hanley, on January 25. Mr. T. C. Cornwell, of Hanley (President of the Association), presided, and in addition to Sir Edward Evans he was supported by Alderman W. Gowen Cross, J.P., of Shrewsbury, Dr. Rowley Moody, Dr. Clare, Dr. C. H. Phillips, Mr. R. J. Hill, Mr. Edmund Jones, Dr. Adler, Mr. W. H. Kemp, Mr. T. Bentley, Mr. W. Brinson (Chesterfield), Mr. R. J. Reynolds, Mr. G. W. Brown, Mr. J. Tirrell, Mr. F. P. Arnold, Mr. A. Newton, Mr. E. Corner, Mr. E. M. Mellor (Uttoxeter), Mr. E. Griffiths (Kiddergrove), Mr. Weston Poole (Newcastle-under-Lyme), Mr. D. D. Edge (Wolstanton), Mr. S. G. Challinor, Mr. E. S. Insull, Mr. T. H. Waldron, Mr. T. Galley, Mr. Pitt, Mr. Howson, Mr. H. B. Greene, and others. Apologies for absence were received from Mr. C. B. Allen (President of the Pharmaceutical Society), Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., and others. In proposing "The Pharmaceutical Society," Sir Edward Evans, alluding to the Presidency of the Pharmaceutical Conference, said it came as a very great surprise to him when, by the unanimous vote of both the retail and the wholesale trade, he was asked to allow himself to be nominated for that position. He consented because he thought that possibly from the experience he had had he was in touch with the feeling that animated both the wholesale and the retail trade.

Referring to

THE INSURANCE ACT,

he said the proper attitude to assume in regard to the matter now was for the trade to recognise the Bill had become the law of the land; that was to say, no matter what might have been their views as to the desirability of the Insurance Act, they must now regard it as an accomplished fact. The Commissioners appointed in connection with the Act were men of great strength of character, and they had enormous power placed in their hands. It was open to the medical profession and the pharmacists to go to these Commissioners as a united body from the whole of the country and point out that doctors and chemists were not finding fault with the principle of the Act, but were trying to carry out what was desired. By those means they might hope to obtain better terms than were at present offered to the trade. There was no doubt there were two points on which the trade ought to be united: one was that the terms offered were not as liberal as the trade could see their way to accept, and the second was that they ought to have representation on the local committees, which was not allowed to them as at present arranged. If the whole trade would approach the subject on those lines through their various Associations, he thought the Commissioners, who would have great power, would, if it were possible, grant them their assistance. If they could not do so under the Act, it was distinctly promised by the Chancellor of the Exchequer that, whatever these Commissioners suggested, if it were necessary, he would bring forward in an amending Act. It was better far to approach the question free from political bias and with a desire to prove that the terms offered were not such as the medical profession and chemists and druggists could accept. They wanted to obtain better terms, and if they were united in purpose, then so far from the Act being a detriment to the professions to which they belonged, he believed it would be of considerable service. He thought they would all agree that it was a proper thing for the doctor to prescribe what the chemist dispensed, and the prospects of this being brought about under the Act must be regarded as being very satisfactory. It was expected that there would be a larger consumption of drugs throughout the country, because there had been millions of people who had lived and who had departed this life without the means of getting the necessary attendance and drugs. Sir Edward then spoke of the Pharmaceutical Society, especially in regard to its educational influences. Alderman W. Gowen Cross, J.P., replied on behalf of the Society, referring to the work done when the Insurance Bill was in Parliament, especially by Mr. Glyn-Jones. Speaking of the Insurance Committee being formed by the Pharmaceutical Council, he said they had had their differences with the limited liability companies in the past, but he thought they as chemists must realise that the companies were working with them in this matter of medical benefit charges. After the health of the President had been honoured on the invitation of Mr. Weston Poole, Mr. Edmund Jones (Hanley), proposed "The Medical Profession," which was responded to by Drs. Phillips, Clare, Moody, and Adler. In his speech Dr. Phillips pointed out one or two of the difficulties that he thought were likely to occur under the Insurance Act. For instance, he said, all chemists did not live at their shops, and he should like to know how medicine hastily needed in the night would be obtained. Again, chemists were required under the Act to undertake work at a fixed charge, and he should like to know what "appliance" or "sundries" meant, as they might put the chemist to very great expense. Were trusses included? (Voices: "Splints.") He agreed that better terms were necessary for both chemists and doctors. Dr. Clare referred to the suggestion that prescriptions might not be as carefully made up by chemists under the new conditions of the Act, and declared that he did not believe that there was the slightest foundation for such a suggestion. Dr. Rowley Moody, while agreeing that better terms ought to be given under the Act, declared that personally he was prepared to make a sacrifice, rather than have the benefits of the Act lost to the community. He thought the doctors would survive the Insurance Act just as the solicitors survived Mr. Chamberlain's revision of the bankruptcy laws, a revision which was a splendid thing, but which took considerable work away from the solicitors. Dr. Adler, on the contrary, declared that, however philanthropically inclined some people might be, he could not afford to take patients at 4s. a year. In fact, he could not do the work at less than 10s. per head. Mr. E. M. Mellor proposed "The Visitors," Sir Edward Evans and Mr. H. B. Greene responding. Mr. W. Brinson proposed "The North Staffordshire Chemists' Association," and Mr. W. D. Edge responded. The contributors to the musical programme included Messrs. F. P. Arnold, W. Calvert, R. J. Reynolds, W. Brinson, Weston Poole, and E. B. Williams.

BIRTHS.

MARTIN.—On January 26, the wife of J. W. Martin, pharmacist, Brockenhurst, Hants, of a daughter.

ROWLANDS.—At Meadowlands, Winchester, on January 22, the wife of R. A. Rowlands, pharmacist, of a son.

WOLFE.—At The Rampart, Kinsale, on January 28, the wife of Ernest E. Wolfe, Ph.C., F.C.S., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

CHARD—SNEEZUM.—At St. John's Church, Ipswich, on January 24, by the Rev. H. W. Hinde, M.A., Harold Chard, chemist and druggist, third son of Mr. F. C. Chard, Louth, Lincolnshire, to Margaret, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Henry Sneezum and Mrs. Sneezum, St. John's, Ipswich.

MEYER—BROWN.—At 82 Thirlestane Road, Edinburgh, on January 24, by the Rev. Dr. Paul, Grange Parish, Robert William Meyer, Ph.C., Trinidad, to Jessie Jane, daughter of the late John Brown, Abercainry.

NICHOLLS—NORTHCOTT.—At Christow, on January 22, Mr. Alfred Frank Nicholls, chemist and druggist, of Falmouth, to Jessamine, elder daughter of Mr. J. Northcott, Springfield, Christow.

DEATHS.

CÆSAR.—On January 21, Mr. Carl Cæsar, the senior partner of the firm of Cæsar & Loretz, wholesale druggists, Halle, aged sixty. Mr. Cæsar was the son of a parson, and after serving his apprenticeship in a drug-house in Frankfort-on-Main, he entered in the beginning of the 'seventies the firm Wilhelm Kathe, of Halle. There he first took up definitely the question of a rational appreciation of crude drugs, which was to form the basis of his future undertakings. In 1887, in connection with his friend Mr. Otto Loretz, he founded the business which has since acquired a worldwide reputation. He was a firm advocate of the principle that the quality of drugs cannot be ascertained by their outward appearance, but only by their therapeutic action. As soon as the methods for the determination of active principles in drugs were placed on a practical basis, he devoted his energies to their extended application and did much towards obtaining due recognition for the various processes of alkaloidal determination and analysis of drugs advanced by Keller and others.

GOW.—At Blairgowrie Road, Coupar Angus, on January 30, Mr. James Gow, chemist and druggist, aged sixty-five. Mr. Gow was in business before the Pharmacy Act, 1868, and was held in high respect in Coupar Angus. He is survived by a widow and family of one son and five daughters.

GREEN.—At 24 Rectory Place, Woolwich, London, S.E., recently, Mr. Robert Green, aged ninety-two. Mr. Green served his apprenticeship at Reading, and commenced business in Hare Street, Woolwich, sixty-seven years ago, and subsequently opened a branch pharmacy in Francis Street. He had lived in retirement at Rectory Place since 1895. Mr. Green's public services included membership of the old Local Board, the Burial Board, and the Board of Guardians. He was also a member of the Management Committee of the Almshouses.

HALE.—On January 21, Charlotte, wife of Mr. Albert H. Hale, chemist and druggist, 3 York Street, Broadstairs, aged sixty-three.

IRWIN.—At Scotch Street, Dungarvan, last week, after a brief illness, Mr. William Irwin, chemist and druggist, aged sixty-seven. Mr. Irwin served his apprenticeship to the drug-trade in Enniskillen, and later opened a business on his own account in Scotch Street, Dungarvan, where he continued in trade for thirty-eight years till he retired

in 1904. He was well known and highly esteemed in the district. He was for years a member of the Dungarvan Town Commissioners Board and of the Urban Council, and had been chairman of both.

NEWTON.—At 28 South Street, Keighley, on January 21, Mr. Henry Newton, chemist and druggist, aged seventy-one. Mr. Newton, who had carried on business in Keighley for a long period, had been a member of the Local Board and Town Council for about twenty years. He was also a prominent Freemason. The funeral took place on January 24, and the Keighley Chemists' Association was represented by Messrs. A. S. Dean, Joseph Harrison, and A. N. Kershaw.

RICHARDSON.—At Stockton, on January 30, suddenly, Mr. Sylvester Richardson, chemist and druggist, of Stockton and Middlesbrough. Mr. Richardson had visited Middlesbrough on the afternoon of the day he died, and he appeared to be in his usual health on his return. Mr. Richardson carried on business at Tilery Road, Stockton.

TIMMINS.—At Ingleby, Park Road, West Hartlepool, on January 25, after a short illness, Mary Elizabeth, wife of Mr. Albert Timmins, chemist and druggist, West Hartlepool.

WILCOCK.—At his residence, Woodlands, Milnthorpe, Westmoreland, on January 27, Mr. John Wilcock, chemist and druggist, aged fifty-two. Mr. Wilcock was formerly in business in New Street, Lancaster, under the style of Bagnall & Wilcock. The funeral took place at Mr. Wilcock's native place, Low Bentham, on January 31.

WILLS PROVEN.

MR. CHARLES KERR, Ph.C., Dundee, left estate valued at 6,876*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.* net.

MR. FRANCIS EDWARD FITT, Ph.C., 8 Lind Road, Sutton, Surrey, who died on January 11, left estate valued at 465*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* gross.

MR. WILLIAM GARE, Newton Square, Bampton, chemist and druggist, who died December 1, aged eighty-five, left estate valued at 2,879*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.* gross, with net personality 2,238*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*

MR. WILLIAM KING, The Woodlands, Ipswich, retired chemist and druggist, who died on December 10, left estate of the gross value of 6,198*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.*, of which the net personality has been sworn at 1,884*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*

MR. OSWALD BROCK, The Gables, Winnington Park, Northwich, head of the purchase department of Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., chemical manufacturers, who died on December 17, left estate of the gross value of 10,903*l.* 15*s.*, of which the net personality has been sworn at 10,699*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.*

BUSINESS CHANGES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. H. DYSON has purchased the business of Messrs. Merry & Parker, chemists, Ilkeston.

THE "LION" DRUG STORES, LTD., Brighton, have opened a branch at 12 High Street, Littlehampton.

BOOTS, LTD., have taken premises in Harbour Street, Ramsgate, which will be opened on completion of alterations.

MR. J. KIRKPATRICK, late of Great Bardfield, has purchased the business of Mr. W. R. Barnes, Ph.C., at 10 Terrace Road, Plaistow, London, E.

MR. J. T. PEARSON, late of Bexhill and Dover, has opened drug-stores at Aberfan Crescent, Aberfan, and Troed-y-rhiw, near Merthyr Tydvil.

MR. HENRY WATSON, chemist and druggist, has sold his business at 44 Seven Sisters Road, Holloway, N., to Mr. Arthur Smith, late of Messrs. Bullock & Co., Hanover Street, London, W.

BOOTS, LTD., are opening a new branch at 63 High Street, Sutton, Surrey. The company have also commenced alterations of the premises they have taken in Grainger Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

TRADE NOTES.

THE LYDIA E. PINKHAM MEDICINE CO. have removed to 42A Hampstead Road, London, N.W.

TURTLE CUP (1911), LTD., have been awarded the gold medal and diploma at the Antwerp Exhibition, and gold medal, diploma, and grand prix at the Turin Exhibition for their preparation, which yields nutritious turtle soup by the mere addition of hot water.

COX'S COUPON.—We gather from the advertisement in this issue of Messrs. Arthur H. Cox & Co., Ltd., Brighton, that they are making by post a special offer to chemists. There is enclosed a coupon entitling the receiver to certain benefits, but the circular is to explain what these are.

P.A.T.A. PRICES.—The additions to the Protected List during January are: Atkinson's additional specialities; Boulton's violet oatmeal cream; Box's additional preparations; dry Diamalt; Lactoline additional preparations; Shurzine atomizing solution. The removals are: Bailey's 'Goutine'; Mersyren; Ozet baths; John Bull Foods, etc.

MESSRS. PRICHARD & CONSTANCE (WHOLESALE), LTD., 71 Newman Street, London, inform us that the 3,000% annual increase through the introduction of the "Amami" perfumery was in their retail business and not the wholesale, and this without other help from the wholesale than would be commanded by any chemist customer of the company's in the country.

FERBER'S GELATIN CAPSULES.—In our note on Messrs. Robert Ferber & Co.'s capsules, *C. & D.*, January 27, p. 121, the special sandalwood compound should have been entitled "Blenosan" not "Blenosal," and the strength of the compound Bland's pill capsules should have been stated as one-fiftieth of a grain of strychnine with the equivalent of 2 minims of arsenical solution and two Bland's pills in one capsule.

E. S. L. & W.'S LIST.—Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., 60 Bartholomew Close, London, E.C., in their new price-list announce that the company has taken over the manufacture of vaccines, serums, and "Liverpool" virus, from the Liverpool Institute of Comparative Pathology. The laboratories will be carried on under the direction of Mr. J. Herbert, E. Evans, and the superintendence of Dr. H. E. Annett, late Professor of Comparative Pathology at the Liverpool University. The general price-list has been corrected to date, and we note that further additions have been made to Hawley's counter-adjuncts.

LOOFAH-SOAP.—Messrs. Ayrton, Saunders & Co., Ltd., 34 Hanover Street, Liverpool, have shown us a new idea they are placing on the market. This consists of a combination of soap and loofah, a cake of soap being enclosed in loofah. The soap is milled and superfatted. The bag is fitted with a tab, and it is intended to be suspended when not in use. It is quite a new idea, and should take with customers who appreciate the loofah as a bath and toilet adjunct. North Wales has been visited this week by Mr. E. Norman Terry, the company's representative, with a full range of samples. His appearance was rendered noticeable from the fact that the journey is being taken in a smart motor-car, upon which the sample-cases are carried.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSE IN PUBLIC SPEAKING.—A few years ago one of the most noted after-dinner speakers in London spoke to a pharmacist, who is a born orator, as to the preparation he made before any important public speech, and confessed that he had to go through the most painstaking preparation before he appeared in public. Many other well-known speakers have had to learn the "how" of the matter. Messrs. Funk & Wagnalls Co. (Dept. C.D.), Salisbury Square, London, E.C., now invite our readers to write to them for free particulars regarding Mr. Grenville Kleiser's "Correspondence Course in Public Speaking." There are many in pharmacy who are called upon to speak, and few have the ability or courage to do it well. Mr. Kleiser's course gives them an opportunity of improvement.

THE NEW ABRIDGED LIST of pills, tablets, and capsules issued by Messrs. T. Howard Lloyd & Co., manufacturing chemists, Leicester, is a neat brochure of fifty odd pages of the handy size of 8½ by 4 inches. This is the twelfth issue of the list, half of which is given over to pills, the net prices being given for five, ten, or fifty gross lots, and per one or seven pounds. The listing is simple, the unofficial formulae for pills being divided under headings such as "alterative," "aperient," or "digestive" pills. The prices for compressed tablets and capsules follow similar lines, while ample particulars are given of the packed lines available. Indexes to the contents and to pill formulae complete the list, which, like the goods it announces, contains much compressed into little space.

WRIGHT'S COAL-TAR SOAP.—Messrs. Wright, Layman & Umney, Ltd., Southwark, London, S.E., have distributed the prizes to chemists in connection with their window display competition for 1911. These were enumerated in the Winter Issue, and since then the company has received letters of thanks from most of the competitors. The first prizeman wrote as follows:—

"I assure you that it has always been a pleasure to hand your specialities over the counter; they have needed no pushing, they just sell themselves. I honestly believe that a chemist who substitutes a coal-tar soap of his own in preference to Wright's is a very foolish fellow, and does something detrimental to his own interests. I shall always take an interest in your specialities."

The other letters are equally complimentary. "VETIOD"—The success which has attended the introduction of Iodex (the external complement of Iodoglidine) has induced Messrs. Menley & James, Ltd., 39 Farringdon Road, London, E.C., to prepare a similar preparation of iodine for veterinary purposes, and the result is "Vetiod." This is a black unguent, in which the iodine is free, or so loosely combined as to simulate the ionic condition when rubbed on the skin, thus affording quick absorption, and the desired resolution of the ailing parts. We find that it does not stain the skin in the slightest, and as to its action the manufacturers have given us the names of distinguished veterinarians who have been using it in their practices, and report most favourably upon it as a remedial agent for wounds, swellings, skin affections and generally as an antiseptic and absorbent. It is put up in black Stipendum boxes to retail at 2s. 6d. and 4s. 6d.

PERSONALITIES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. T. C. LAMB, J.P., Ph.C., Chatham, has been elected a Vice-President of the Medway Chamber of Trade.

MR. J. WOOLER BELL has joined the travelling representative staff of Messrs. Ayrton, Saunders & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.

MR. DAVID MARCHANT, 1 Rockingham Place, Eastbourne, has been appointed Hon. Secretary of the Eastbourne Pharmacists' Association.

ALDERMAN W. GOWEN CROSS, Ph.C., of Mardol, Shrewsbury, has been elected Vice-Chairman of the Shrewsbury Borough Education Committee.

MR. JOHN L. HUNT, Ph.C., Conway Road, Colwyn Bay, has been elected Treasurer of the local branch of the Independent Order of Foresters.

At the Court of the Worshipful Company of Fruiterers, held at the Guildhall on January 25, Mr. John C. Hewlett, F.C.S., of C. J. Hewlett & Son, Ltd., Charlotte Street, E.C., was elected Upper Warden of the Company. At the dinner the same evening Sir Arthur J. Tedder, Commissioner of Customs, was among the guests.

DR. ARTHUR PILLANS LAURIE, Principal of the Heriot-Watt College, Edinburgh, has been elected to the Professorship of Chemistry in the Royal Academy, in succession to Sir Arthur Church, F.R.S., who recently resigned. Dr. Laurie had a distinguished career in Edinburgh and Cambridge Universities, and is one of the few British chemists who have given attention to the study of pigments. He has been Principal of the Heriot-Watt College since 1900, when he succeeded Mr. F. Grant Ogilvie, C.B.

TRADE REPORT.

The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock, after which much expense may be incurred in garbling and the like. Qualities of chemicals, drugs, oils, and many other commodities vary greatly, and higher prices than those here quoted are charged for selected qualities of natural products even in bulk quantities. Retail buyers cannot, therefore, for these and other reasons, expect to purchase at the prices quoted here.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., February 1.

BUSINESS conditions in the drug and chemical markets remain much as reported since the beginning of the year, and the week's developments comprise few items of interest. In heavy chemicals the outstanding feature is the announcement of a substantial reduction in the price of ammonia alkali, to take place from July 1. Sulphate of copper has declined somewhat, and benzols have an easier tendency. Cream of tartar is weak and prices are again lower. Acetate of lime is very firm, and acetic acid is still in upward tendency; offers of santonin have been withdrawn by the Syndicate, preparatory, it is thought, to a further advance. Milk-sugar sells in retail at recent prices. Quicksilver is active on export account, the first-hand price having advanced 5s. Atropine and cocaine are easier. In drugs, a fair quantity of asafetida ex auction has changed hands, and fine reboiled dragon's-blood has been cleared. Opium is nominally firm, but business is lacking. The Lofoten cod-fishing has now opened under fair conditions. Bergamot oil has again advanced in several quarters, and it looks as if good quality will again be scarce this season. Peppermint oil is the subject of strong advices from the U.S.A., but spot prices do not move. A revision of prices in American drugs shows a higher level for lobelia herb, blood-root, elm, and bayberry-barks. Serpentry, sassafras, damiana, and wahoo-bark are more or less cheaper. Among seeds and spices canary is dearer, anise and linseed are steady; while cumin, caraway, and coriander are unchanged; fennugreek is firm. Japanese ginger and capsicums were easier at auction. The principal changes are as follows:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Bergamot oil	Bayberry	Atropine	Cloves
Canary seed	Elm bark	Benzols	Cream of
Cinnamon	Eserine	Capsicums	tartar
Leptandrin	Pepper	Copper	Ginger (Japan)
Lobelia herb		sulphate	Wahoo bark
Quicksilver		Cocaine	
Sanguinaria		Damiana	
root		Sassafras bark	
Sulphocarbo-		Serpentry	
lates		Shellac	
Turpentine			
Wax, Japan			
(c.i.f.)			

Cablegram.

NEW YORK, FEBRUARY 1:—Business is fair. Opium is slow at \$8.50; hydrastis has advanced to \$5; peppermint oil in tins is firm at \$2.85; ipecacuanha is lower at \$1.85; buchu is \$1 for round; cascara is nominal at 9c.

Cod-liver Oil Prospects (1912).

Messrs. Freudentheil & Co. have received the following report from their principals, Messrs. Brødr. Aarsaether, Aalesund, Norway, in regard to the cod-fishing prospects for 1912: "It is a general belief that livers will this year become smaller and leaner than last year. This belief is founded on the former experience that when livers commence becoming leaner, they do so for some years until they

reach a great degree of leanness, after which they gradually improve. This was the case in 1881, 1882, 1883, and 1884, 1894, 1895, and 1896, 1901, 1902, 1903, and 1904. That livers during the last two or three years have been gradually growing leaner, and that the leanness reached last year was far above the bottom reached in 1883, 1895, and 1903 is acknowledged; but whether the condition of livers will follow the same movement as on former occasions is not known as yet. The cod already caught appear to be leaner than last year at the same time, but as this is a stationary fish the regular winter cod, which will probably reach the coast in about a week, may prove different. The cod caught in Finmarken during the autumn and winter has been in good condition, but this seems to be quite another kind of cod from that which arrives at the coast in large shoals at the end of January and the beginning of February for spawning."

London Markets.

ACETIC ACID is very firm in conjunction with raw material, the present price of glacial 98 to 99 per cent. being 33*l.* 10*s.* to 34*l.*, and glacial 99 to 100 per cent. 34*l.* 10*s.* to 35*l.* per ton, ex wharf.

AMERICAN DRUGS.—The following are current quotations of a few of the more important barks, herbs, leaves, and roots on c.i.f. terms to arrive, unless otherwise stated: *Barks*, bayberry, 30*s.* to 32*s.* per cwt.; black haw of root, 10½*d.* per lb.; dogwood, 4½*d.*; elm, 5½*d.*; sassafras, 7*d.* (on the spot); wahoo, 1*s.* 9*d.*; wild cherry, 4½*d.* net (on the spot); witch-hazel, 3*d.* *Herbs*, lobelia, 5½*d.*; scullcap, 10*d.* *Leaves*, damiana, 7*d.* net (on the spot); witch-hazel, 3*d.* *Roots*, blue-flag, 7*d.*; elecampane, 6*d.*; gelsemium, 3½*d.*; hydrastis, 20*s.* per lb.; culvers, 9*d.*; mandrake, 32*s.*; blood, 5*d.*; and serpentaria, 1*s.* 7*d.* net (on the spot).

AMMONIA ALKALI.—Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., announce that they propose to make a substantial reduction in the price of their pure alkali 58° (soda ash) as from July 1 next. The amount of the reduction is not stated, but inquiries go to show that it will be in the neighbourhood of 20*s.* per ton. It is said that this reduction will have the effect of bringing down the price to the lowest figure in the history of the trade. The present price in bags is 4*l.* per ton on rails, and 4*l.* 5*s.* f.o.b. Liverpool.

ANISE OIL (STAR) is steady, with small sales at from 5*s.* 10*d.* to 5*s.* 11*d.* for Red Ship brand on the spot. To arrive 5*s.* 8*d.* c.i.f. is quoted, with second-hand sellers at 5*s.* 7*d.* for November-December and December-January shipment.

ANISEED is steady at 27*s.* to 28*s.* per cwt. for common to good Russian on the spot, and 32*s.* 6*d.* for Spanish.

ASAFETIDA.—Since the auctions fully 10 tons have been sold, mostly between 9*l.* 10*s.* and 10*l.* per cwt., while the best lots are held at between 15*l.* and 20*l.* per cwt.

ATROPINE.—Rather lower prices are quoted as the result of competition, sulphate offering at from 10*s.* 3*d.* to 10*s.* 6*d.* per oz., as to quantity.

BALSAM TOLU.—To arrive, large tins are quoted at 2*s.* to 2*s.* 1*d.* per lb. c.i.f. terms.

BENZOIN.—The *Ping Lucy* has brought 134 cases from Penang and 20 from Singapore. The bulk consists of common seconds Sumatra, and will be offered next week.

BERGAMOT OIL remains substantially as last week, with prices varying at from 27*s.* up to 32*s.* per lb. c.i.f. according to shipper. Good quality will again be scarce this season.

A Palermo advice dated January 27 reports the position as becoming more and more difficult. Owing to the smallness of the crop and the success of speculators last year, growers and holders believe that there is no limit to the advance. Consumers kept back during the early part of the pressing season, hoping that with the new production prices would be easier, but during last week several orders came to hand, and sellers took the advantage to quickly raise prices with each transaction; market closes excited.

BROMINE.—It is understood that negotiations are now proceeding for the reconstitution of the German Bromine Convention. The regulation of the output of the Convention has hitherto been subject to the extent of the allotments fixed by the Potash Syndicate. Since the Distributing Board of the Potash Syndicate has decided that from January 1, 1912, second and third shafts were to be regarded as new potash-works, it is held that the distribution of the allotments in the Bromine Convention should

undergo a considerable modification. At a meeting held at the end of December, it was decided to dissolve the Bromine Convention on March 31 next, unless a new arrangement can be made prior to that date. The negotiations have so far led to no conclusive result, and the opinion is expressed in interested industrial circles that should such negotiations prove a failure quotations for bromine are likely to drop considerably through the disruption of the Convention. It is also suggested that, in view of the considerable number of potash-works in existence attempts which might be made later for the re-inception of the Convention will meet with difficulty. [The foregoing is from the "Frankfurter Zeitung," and the statement as to the possibility of the dissolution of the Bromine Convention should be accepted with reserve.]

BUCHU.—A very fair business has been done, and the first-hand market of clean round green is now practically cleared at from 4s. to 4s. 3d. for finest. Longs have also been dealt in, and the second-hand price for good clean is now 2s. 3d. to 2s. 6d.; ovals are also scarce, up to 2s. having been paid, and of this description it is stated there are only 10 bales left in first hands. Nine packages have arrived from Cape Town.

CALUMBA.—The *Goorkha* has brought 265 bags from Mozambique.

CAMPHOR (CRUDE).—The spot value of China *Crude* remains unchanged at 150s. per cwt., but very little interest is shown; for shipment 132s. 6d. c.i.f. has been declined.

CAMPHOR (REFINED).—The spot value of Japanese 2½-lb. slabs remains at 1s. 6½d., and at 1s. 6¼d. c.i.f. for arrival; 1-oz. tablets 1s. 7½d., and ¼-oz. 1s. 7½d. c.i.f. terms.

CANARY-SEED is dearer owing to diminishing stocks and small shipments from the producing countries. Ordinary quality has been sold at 47s. to 49s., and good at 48s. to 51s. per quarter.

CARAWAY-SEED is quiet at 26s. 6d. to 27s. 6d. per cwt. for fair to good Dutch on the spot.

CARDAMOMS.—Arrivals continue on a very small scale, and the spice is comparatively scarce. Decorticated seed is firmly held at 3s. 3d., at which business has been done, and for camphoraceous 3s. has been paid.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—The *Commodore via Puerto Mexico* has brought 661 packages; spot is quoted at from 40s. to 42s. 6d. per cwt., according to age and holder.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Steady, 57 boxes of fair selected selling without reserve at from 41s. 6d. to 42s.; 50 bales of broken were bought in at 35s.

CASSIA OIL remains very quiet, 80 to 85 per cent. c.a. offering at 3s. 10d., 75 to 80 per cent. 3s. 8d., and 70 to 75 per cent. 3s. 7d. on the spot; to arrive on c.i.f. terms the quotations are 3s. 9½d., 3s. 8d., and 3s. 7d. respectively.

CINNAMON.—The "Ceylon Observer" of January 10 reports that the quotation for usual assortment cinnamon is 73 cents per lb. Arrivals are very small, and there is not much cinnamon left out of the present crop. The contractors find it difficult to carry out their forward contracts. There is a very good demand just now, and it is anticipated prices will rise further. The cause of the rise is due to the rooting out of cinnamon to make room for coconut and rubber. The estates were very much neglected during the low prices which ruled during the past fifteen years, and planters paid no attention to the cultivation of cinnamon. On the London market, Ceylon assortment is quoted at 1s. 1½d. to 1s. 1¾d. c.i.f.

CITRONELLA OIL.—Business has been done in Ceylon description at 11½d. per lb. c.i.f. London for February-April shipment; on the spot 1s. is quoted for drums and 1s. 1½d. for cases.

CLOVES.—At auction 12 cases unpicked Penang sold without reserve at 8½d., being cheaper. Fair picked were taken out at 1s. 2d., and 234 bags Zanzibar were bought in at 5½d. Privately Zanzibar are lower, the sales including 100 bales on the spot at from 4½d. to 4½d. A good business has been done for arrival, the sales including January-March shipment at 4½d. to 4½d. February-April at 4½d., and March-May at 4½d. to 4½d. c.i.f. d/w., these prices being lower.

COD-LIVER OIL.—Several offers are being made of oil from the new fishing, but as yet little interest is being displayed on the part of buyers, who usually adopt a hand-to-mouth policy at the opening of a new season. So far, judging from private reports, the livers are plentiful but lean; from 104s. to 106s. c.i.f. is quoted for the new for February-March shipment, and 1911 oil for prompt shipment is 103s. c.i.f. Our Bergen correspondent writes on January 29 that the first report from the Lofoten fisheries has appeared one week earlier as compared with last year. The catch is still insignificant, however, only 82,000 cod with a yield of 56 hect. of cod-liver oil, and 26 hect. of liver for raw oils. As to the condition of the fish, the report contains the following details:

	1911	1912
Weight of 100 cod (kilos.) ...	350 to 400	370 to 270
Number of liver (per hect.)...	330 to 400	400 to 500
Oil percentage in liver ...	40	40 to 45

The market is unaltered and very quiet, few and small lots of oil being handled. The last quotation of 103s. per barrel c.i.f. for finest non-congealing cod-liver oil is nominally maintained. It will be understood that with a limited quantity of fish such as the present it is difficult to fix the percentage of oil, and further reports may perhaps change the above figures. At all events it is rather astonishing that, in spite of the smaller liver, the percentage of oil is this year as good as last year, and even a trifle better.

COPPER SULPHATE has eased to the extent of 5s. per ton, ordinary Liverpool brands offering for prompt delivery at 22l. 5s., February-April at 22l. 10s., and May-June at 22l. to 21l. 15s.

CORIANDR-SEED is unchanged at 15s. per cwt. for fair Morocco.

CREAM OF TARTAR is a weak and lower market; 98-per-cent. powder offering at 81s. and 95-per-cent. at 79s. per cwt.

CUMIN-SEED is very slow of sale, the absence of demand keeps the price at a moderate level, although stocks are small. Morocco is quoted 24s. and Malta 27s. 6d. to 30s. per cwt. on the spot, and the latter 25s. c.i.f. terms for shipment.

DEXTRIN remains very firm, and will probably be so until next autumn. Dutch is quoted 19s., and German 21s. to 22s., ex wharf. *Farina* is also in a like position, the value of Dutch being 15l. 5s. f.o.b.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—Sales of fine reboiled lump ex last week's auction parcel have been made at 11l. 10s. per cwt., the eight cases offered having been cleared. Six cases have arrived from Singapore.

ESERINE is rather dearer at 5s. 3d. per gramme for the sulphate and salicylate salts, and 6s. 3d. for crystals.

FENUGREEK-SEED is firm at 10s. per cwt. for good Morocco.

GALBANUM.—Eight packages have arrived from Bushire.

GALLS.—Sales are reported of Chinese at 48s. per cwt. c.i.f. for ordinary and 52s. c.i.f. for plum-shape for January to March shipment. Such contracts include the "war clause," by which sellers may easily plead *force majeure* if necessary. Blue Persian are quoted 52s. 6d. to 53s. spot.

GAMBOGE.—Small sales are reported at from 12l. to 12l. 10s. per cwt. for fair to good Siam pipe.

GINGER.—At auction 168 bags good limes Japan sold without reserve at 32s., with one lot at 31s. 6d., being rather easier. Cochin was slow, 161 bags rough washed, wormy being bought in at from 42s. to 45s. Privately, Japanese for February-April shipment is offered at 25s. c.i.f. Sales in Liverpool include 40 tons new Sierra Leone at 28s. 6d.

GUM ACACIA.—In East Indian gums good quality No. 1 Ghatti is offered at 37s. per cwt. on spot, and at the same figure for arrival. Sudan on the spot is unaltered, with a fair business; to arrive sellers quote fair average new crop for January-February shipment from Khartoum at 39s. 6d. per cwt. c.i.f. Of Senegal gum, the sales include a small parcel of rather inferior Bas de Fleuve at 43s. 9d. per cwt. f.o.b. Bordeaux.

IPECACUANHA.—There has been a fair inquiry, but not much business done; the sales include 5 bales Minas at 8s. 5d. Twenty bales Johore have been delivered from the warehouse.

LEMON OIL remains unchanged, new crop offering for prompt shipment at from 5s. 4d. to 5s. 8d. per lb. c.i.f., according to shipper. We understand that recently about 100,000 lb. have been bought in Sicily by shippers whose engagements did not allow them to delay further in the hope of lower prices. This important buying was no doubt hastened by storms, which damaged the lemon and bergamot fruit. It would therefore appear that the speculators who control a large proportion of the supplies have a stronger grip on the situation. In these circumstances the only course open is hand-to-mouth buying.

We have the following advice from Palermo dated January 27: The recent upward movement has developed further during the week. In the Palermo district pressings continue to be very limited, while on the eastern coast heavy speculation continues among growers and outsiders, these operations having entirely upset market calculations. January delivery of previous short sales continues the most perturbing element in the present position. It appears that some speculators (not producers) are short of oil which they have to deliver before the end of the month, and holders are endeavouring to make them pay higher prices. The demand from abroad has been rather active during the week, and it does not appear as if the present firmness will disappear during the early part of the season. For new crop for shipment 5s. 8d. per lb. c.i.f. is quoted.

LINSEED.—Fine kinds are steady at 67s. 6d. to 70s. per quarter.

MENTHOL.—In the absence of a regular market, it is difficult to give a spot quotation. Kobayashi could probably be had at 22s. to 22s. 6d.; for January-March shipment 18s. 6d. c.i.f. has been paid from second-hands for several parcels of Kobayashi-Suzuki, and 16s. c.i.f. has been paid for March-April. Sellers now ask 19s. for the earlier position.

The exports from Japan during November amounted to 10,872 kin, valued at 103,555 yen, against 12,170 kin in 1910. The eleven months' exports were:

	1909	1910	1911
Kin	88,787	107,365	96,397
Equivalent in cases	1,973	2,386	2,142

MILK-SUGAR meets with a hand-to-mouth business at from 87s. 6d. to 90s. per cwt. on the spot. The "National" brand for July-December delivery is offered at 75l. per ton. Arrivals aggregating 103 packages have taken place, including 50 cases from Genoa.

MUSK is unaltered, with practically no thin blue-skin Tonquin pod offering; old-style thick-skin Pile I. has been sold at 60s. per oz. Russian cabardine is held for 19s. per oz.

OILS (FIXED).—*Linsced* closes cheaper on the week, pipes and barrels offering at 37s. 6d. and February-April delivery at 37s. 3d. Ceylon coconut is easier, spot offering at 43s. and Cochin at 48s. 6d. per cwt. Cotton-seed is quiet and the turn easier, crude offering at 22s. 3d., ordinary pale refined at 24s., and sweet refined at 27s. *Soya* is also easier, barrels offering at 28s. 3d. on the spot. *Rape* is quiet and easier, ordinary brown crude offering at 32s. 3d., and refined in casks at 34s. Lagos palm oil is offering in Liverpool at 30s. per cwt. Petroleum is steady at 6½d. for Russian spot, 6¾d. for ordinary refined American, and 7¾d. for water-white.

OLIBANUM.—Steady. Recent sales include siftings at 21s., fair garblings at 25s. to 26s., ordinary drop at 35s., fair ditto at 43s., and good drop at 50s. per cwt. Very high prices are asked for new crop, samples of which are inferior.

OPPIUM.—Business is at a standstill in this drug, in spite of which the primary markets show the same degree of firmness, there being no great pressure to sell. On the spot 11 per cent. Turkey druggists' is worth fully 28s. 6d. per lb.

A Smyrna correspondent writes on January 19 reporting another quiet week, a few pounds of extra Karahissar having changed hands for export at the high figure of 33s. per lb., and one case new current talequale at 30s. for account of interior speculators. The excessive cold weather continues, and all the high lands are now covered with snow, which

keeps the sowings back. Holders are now unanimous in expecting a basis of 35s. to 40s. as to quality later on. The arrivals amount to 1,082 cases, against 4,289 cases at same date last year.

ORANGE OIL.—Palermo advice, dated January 27, reports a stronger market in sympathy with other Sicilian essential oils. Sellers have been endeavouring to obtain firmer prices for the few orders received, although the demand is not very active. For shipment sweet of new crop is quoted at 7s. 10½d., and bitter 8s. per lb. c.i.f.

PEPPERMINT OIL.—Judging by private advices received from the United States, the market has developed a firmer feeling in the West on account of the intense cold weather prevailing, and the consequent danger to the plants; growers are very firm in their ideas of value. In London from 12s. 3d. to 12s. 6d. net is quoted for American tin-oil; H.G.H. has sold at 15s. 3d. London terms, and 15s. 6d. is wanted in one quarter. Todd's crystal white is quoted 14s. 3d. net.

The peppermint oil exports from Japan during November were 13,541 kin, the eleven months' exports being: 1909, 139,827 kin; 1910, 134,326 kin; 1911, 140,323 kin.

QUICKSILVER.—With a moderate activity in the demand, the leading importer, after transacting business at 8l. to 8l. 2s. 6d., advanced his price to 8l. 5s. on Monday, and in second-hands the closing quotation is 8l. 4s.; market is strong.

The preliminary statistics of the United States Geological Survey, made up from the return of individual producers, show the domestic output of quicksilver for last year as 21,821 flasks of 75 lb. each, valued at the average San Francisco domestic price for the year of \$46.01, at \$1,003,984, which represents an increase of 1,220 flasks and of \$45,831 in value compared with the previous year. There were twenty-two mines producing during 1911, of which nineteen are in California. It is not expected that the current year's production will show much change in the aggregate from that for 1911.

SANTONIN.—It is stated that the Syndicate are not sellers and that they have withdrawn all offers, being without stock. This step is looked upon as preparatory to a further advance, but quite at the close this had not been announced.

SENEGA.—There is a seller at 2s. 6d. per lb. net, and others ask 2s. 6½d. to 2s. 7d. net on the spot.

SHELLAC.—At auction 353 cases offered and 158 cases sold, mostly without reserve, fine second orange qualities being rather cheaper. Fine pale free orange sold at 77s. to 78s., good free second orange 72s., bright reddish slightly matted 69s. to 70s., matted to blocky 65s., and ordinary dark red matted TN 57s. to 59s.; 15 cases Button sold at 17s. to 18s. for black resinous fourths. Privately the market is quiet, with retail sales on a basis of 63s. for fair TN orange. For arrival 63s. 6d. c.i.f. has been paid for February-March shipment of TN, and for near at hand 61s. 6d. is quoted. Futures have been steady, the sales including March at 63s. 6d. and May at 64s. 6d. to 64s.

SPERMACETIL.—American refined is offered at 11½d. per lb. spot.

SPIKE OIL.—Finest French is quoted at from 3s. 9d. to 4s. per lb.

STROPHANTHUS.—The *Goorkha* from Chinde has brought 78 bags.

SULPHOCARBOLATES have been advanced by 3d. per lb., soda and zinc offering at 11d. net in 28 lb. lots and 1s. in 14-lb. lots.

TURPENTINE.—During the greater part of the week the market has declined, and on Tuesday the spot price touched its lowest, 33s. 6d.; but on Wednesday, with a strong demand, prices advanced fully 1s. per cwt., 34s. 6d. being paid for American and from 34s. 9d. to 35s. for February-April, 35s. to 35s. 6d. for July-December, a large business being done. Market closes at 34s. 9d. spot.

WAX (CARNAUBA).—Arrivals in Liverpool include 323 bags from Ceara and 179 bags from Parahyba.

WAX (JAPANESE).—It is stated that a combination has been formed in the producing-districts to restrict the season's output by 50 per cent. This has led to more inquiry, but sellers' ideas vary from 41s. 6d. to 43s. per cwt. c.i.f.



Memoranda for Correspondents.

All communications must be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers, otherwise they cannot be dealt with. Queries by subscribers on dispensing, legal, and miscellaneous subjects connected with the business are replied to in these columns if they are considered to be of general interest.

Letters submitted for publication (if suitable) should be written on one side of the paper only. Their publication in "The Chemist and Druggist" does not imply Editorial agreement with the opinions expressed.

Copaiba-distilling Apparatus.

SIR,—I shall be glad if you will repair an omission in my article on copaiba in your last issue. The sketch of the splash head should show two holes, 5 mm. diameter each, in the central tube; one being near the top, and the other half-way down, and on opposite sides. These allow a free passage for the vapours, and any liquid which splashes up drips back into the flask by way of the bend at the bottom of the tube.

Yours faithfully,

T. TUSTING COCKING.

Analytical Laboratory, The British Drug Houses, Ltd.,
Graham Street, N.

Duties of Apprentices.

SIR,—Your reply to "Apprentice" (34/7) is splendid and to the point. The work I and my friend F. W. Doubleday had to do in an old-fashioned chemist's establishment in the mid-seventies at Diss, in Norfolk, under my father's rule would astonish the young man of to-day, and I don't think, although we resented it at the time, but that it increased our value both to our own selves and others; nor did it stop a very fair amount of chemistry and botany being done at the same time.

Faithfully yours,

THOMAS GODDARD NICHOLSON,

Palmers, Great Marlow. M.B., B.Sc. Lond.

Armorial Bearings.

Mr. W. Johnston, Secretary of the Chemists' Defence Association, Ltd., sends us a letter on this subject, in which he supports the views which we set forth last week, as to there being no necessity of chemists changing their customs owing to the recent decision. Mr. Johnston adds that if any chemist encounters a disposition on the part of his town or county council to depart from the exemptions which we quoted, he would be pleased to hear from him.

Mr. Yule Resigns.

Mr. Thomas Yule (Cowdenbeath), a member of the Executive of the North British Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society, informs us that he is not to seek re-election. His reasons are, briefly, as follows:

(1) The day of meeting (Friday) is inconvenient for him.
(2) The Executive is too large, and, considering its very limited powers, a body of twelve could do the work more efficiently, economically, and expeditiously. Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Fifeshire are very much over-represented; there is no representation north of Aberdeen, and none from the southern division of Scotland. One good representative from Fifeshire is quite sufficient, more leads to clannishness.

(3) The intervals between meetings are too long for efficiency.

(4) The Chairman performs his duties splendidly, and attends to all calls made upon him in connection with the evening work of the Branch, but, speaking generally, Mr. Yule does not find among the members, or officials, that keenness for thorough organisation and federation that exists among the delegates and officials of strong trade-unions. When the National Insurance Bill was introduced he proposed in the Executive that a Special Committee should be appointed for this work. The question was remitted to the General Purposes Committee, and he has heard nothing more of it. Modern legislation is steadily driving Chemists' Association members to the conclusion that there must be a central representative body, actively engaged in looking after the interests of Scottish pharmacists, and advising as to the best ways and means of securing uniformity of procedure and unity of action in all difficulties and dangers.

(5) There is a lot of work to be done before existing associations are federated, and Scottish pharmacists even moderately well organised, and it will never be done unless all do what they can to help. Mr. Yule intends to try to be of some service in this direction, through the most likely means, viz., the local Chemists' Association.

Half-holiday for Belfast.

SIR,—Allow me through THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST to put forward a few suggestions regarding the half-holiday provision which will come into force on May 1. So far, although other cities are making preparation, Belfast seems to be asleep on this subject. (1) In order to get the opinion of the entire trade on the question we should call a general meeting; (2) members not able to attend should send in their names and addresses, with their opinion on the subject; (3) a committee should be elected to push forward the half-holiday and attend to matters in connection with it; (4) the day for early closing should be Friday, as it suits the majority of the trade. It would also be well to know that information regarding the half-holiday can be obtained from the Secretary of the Ulster Drug-trade Association or the Secretary of the Chemists' and Druggists' Society. A number of chemists in the centre of the city seem delighted with the prospect of a half-holiday. There is no reason why we cannot be unanimous on the subject, seeing that all the other business associations in this city have agreed to close. The poor chemist can do with an hour or two at Bangor or a row on the Lagan with the missus and kiddies. The opportunity now arises. Let us all agree to close and be happy. Yours,

BELFAST PILL-MAKER. (57/46.)

Subscribers' Symposium.

For questions, answers, incidents, and interchange of opinions among "C. & D." readers.

Cookery-bags Adhesive.

Mr. W. Bousfield, Sutton Coldfield, writes: "I note your reply to 'J. H. R. & Z.' (33/4) in C. & D., January 20, as to adhesive for parchment-bags. I have been told from what I thought was a reliable source (on inquiry some time ago) that the bags for paper cookery are held together at the seams with white of egg. I should have thought a resinous adhesive would have given way under heat."

Cupmoss Syrup.

Mr. J. Price, Leamington Spa, referring to the reply in the C. & D., January 27, index folio 174, writes: "I think it might be of interest to know that in my apprenticeship days, thirty years ago, in the Black Country we used to sell two kinds of cupmoss syrup—often written coughmoss—one being light colour and made by adding tinct. tolu. to syr. simpl., and the other a dark syrup, being simply syr. papav. alb."

Trades Exempted from the Shops Act.

As a contribution to the numerous points which arise under the new Shops Act, it might be mentioned that there are several trades in which chemists are interested, in addition to the drug-trade, exempted from the provisions of closing-orders. For instance, there is no restriction on sales of refreshments, confectionery, tobacco and other smokers' requisites, newspapers and magazines. There are many chemists interested in one or more of these branches.—W. C. D. (59/12).

Appreciations.

"We are highly pleased with your Winter Issue, and congratulate you on its excellence."—J. H. & Co. (60/12).

Your Winter Issue is, as usual, an *édition de luxe*, and is not surpassed by any periodical of a technical nature, even by those which are published solely in the interests of artistic printing and lithographing. The racily-written article on various types of chemists made exceedingly entertaining reading.—J. W. P. (59/91).

"I was pleasantly surprised to find that I was a prize-winner. It was an interesting occupation to look carefully through the advertisement pages of your *Diary*, but I am afraid it cost me considerably more than 7s. 6d., as I was induced to make a good number of purchases from the contemplation of their respective merits." So writes a prize-winner (59/71), who must have made many more half-crowns out of the *Diary*; and there are more to come.

Another prize-winner (60/50) writes: "I have always had more than my money's worth out of the C. & D., which I

find increasingly valuable in these days when the conditions governing a pharmacist's business are becoming more and more difficult and complex. Allow me to congratulate you on the able and admirable manner in which you conduct your journal."

Boston Cream.

Mr. W. Alex McLeod (Clapham Park) sends the following, which differs slightly from the formula printed last week:

In a quart of hot water dissolve $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. loaf-sugar and 1 oz. tartaric acid. When nearly cold add white of one large egg and essence lemon to taste. This is bottled, but is ready for use. To use, take 1 to 2 oz. of this solution in a tumbler, add sufficient water to two-thirds fill tumbler, then stir in by means of a spoon as much bicarbonate of soda as will cover a threepenny-piece. This causes an effervescence, and the albumen in the liquid retards CO_2 , making thick creamy layer on top of fluid, through which the "draught" is taken. Sugar may be added to taste. It makes a grand ice-cold refresher, and was much in vogue in the North-East district some ten years ago.

The formula given is all right, but in Fifeshire it is customary to add a pinch of sodii bicarb., which gives a fine creamy head; hence the name.—J. G. (57/13).

W. B. (57/2) writes: "If half a teaspoonful of bicarbonate of soda is added to each tumblerful of the beverage, the 'head' that results makes the origin of the name 'cream' more apparent.

Lohoch Sanum or Lock Salmon.

In reference to the reply to "Phenacetin" (40/11) in the *C. & D.*, January 27, index folio 174, we are reminded that in 1906 the matter was the subject of correspondence in this journal, when the substance was referred to as "lock" salmon, which is a more correct form than "rock" salmon, lock being in its turn a corruption of lohoch, an old term for a linctus. The correspondence mentioned above is thus summarised in "Pharmaceutical Formulas":

"Lock salmon" is commonly sold in Staffordshire and the mining and colliery districts of Yorkshire and elsewhere. In the latter parts a favourite domestic remedy is a pennyworth of ipecacuanha-wine, a pennyworth of syrup of squill, two-pennyworth of syrup of foxes' lungs, and a pennyworth of "lock salmon," or "luxomen," and for the last item Sheffield district chemists give syrup of tolu. Elsewhere it is interpreted lac ammoniaci (mist. ammoniac. is supposed to be the thing), but syr. toltanus is usually given, or, if the customer wants red lock salmon, syr. rhæados; while in Hull oxymel scillæ is generally sold for lock salmon.

Several correspondents have since supplied the information required, one variant from those given above being syrup of tolu tinted with tinct. gentianæ co. We have to thank another correspondent for reminding us that the name is really a corruption of "Lohoch Sanum," which was official in the London Pharmacopœia. The formula was invented by the Arabian physician whom we know under the name of Mesuë the Elder, who was born in 776 at Khrouz, near Nineveh, and died at Bagdad in 855. We have thus the interesting fact established that there is in use at the present day a remedy which was devised over a thousand years ago. There is a possibility, however, that the invention was really made by Mesuë the Younger, who flourished about the year 1000. Many of the formulæ of the two Mesuës found their way into the London Pharmacopœia. We ought to add that the resemblance between the present-day lohoch sanum and that of the old formularies is not great.

Dispensing Notes.

This section is for the discussion and solution of dispensing problems and prescriptions submitted by "C. & D." readers. We are always pleased to receive the opinions of readers for publication. "The Art of Dispensing" ("C. & D." Office, 6s.) is the standard book of reference on this subject.

A Dispensing Difficulty.

A prescription was handed to me to fill containing:

Pot. brom. ...	...	gr. x.
Tr. nuc. vom. ...	...	℥v.
* Lactopeptin. ...	...	5j.
Spt. chlorof. ...	...	℥x.
Aquam ad ...	...	3ss.

Capiat ter in die. Mitte 3viii.

The mixture was dispensed as written, and was returned the next day. The appearance was wrong, and the price was exorbitant, evidence of the latter being adduced in the form of the receipted bill of a famous firm of chemists who had first dispensed the prescription, and who were

resident in the city where the prescriber dwelt. On writing to the firm, a reply was elicited that the dose being unusual, they consulted the prescriber, whose intention, it appears, was "Elixir of lactopeptin," which they dispensed, and the asterisk was theirs, and not prescriber's. Now, my belief is that when an unusual dose is ordered in a prescription, and initialled, underlined, or asterisked, it is a clear indication that the prescriber knows what he is doing, and that it is the duty of the dispenser to dispense the prescription as written, unless he is aware that the effect of such an overdose would be injurious. In the case under consideration the makers of the preparation, and not the prescriber, should be consulted. The plea of the first dispensers, who were courteous enough to explain their action, was that they did not care to assume the responsibility of altering the prescription for fear of offending the physician by disclosing his error to his patient. But surely when a mistake is made and blame follows, it should fall on the right shoulders. The opinions of your readers are respectfully invited. MASKEE. (60/901.)

Legal Queries.

Consult "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1912, pp. 435 to 454, where most legal difficulties are anticipated, before writing about your difficulty.

Newport (59/59).—There is nothing on your herbal-cerate label to make it liable to medicine stamp-duty.

Anxious Cork (59/20).—Read the paragraphs *re* Ireland in the Shops Act as printed in the *C. & D.*, January 13. Irish pharmacists' and druggists' assistants must get a half-holiday whether the shop is shut or not.

N. H. (59/8).—A drachm of liq. ammon. fort. in 3 oz. of liquid plate-polish will not bring that preparation within the liquid ammonia regulation, nor does that regulation apply to solutions of ammonium carbonate.

C. F. J. (58/6).—It is not necessary to put revenue stamps upon dummy packages of dutiable medicines used for exhibition purposes, but we may recall the fact that as soon as a dutiable medicine is put in packets for sale the law requires each packet to be stamped according to its value. See a case reported in this issue.

C. M. (54/29).—Your handbill for pills said to be "effective, approved, and beautifully finished" will make the following liable to medicine stamp-duty: "bilious and liver pills," "head and stomach pills," and "digestive pills," on account of the word "effective," because it indicates the action of the pills upon the parts of the body named. The following titles make the pills liable: "Cough pills," "flatulency or wind pills," "rheumatic pills," "backache and kidney pills," "neuralgia and tic pills."

J. E. M. (54/11) manages a branch shop single-handed, and gets a half-holiday weekly from 2 P.M. as well as two hours' leave on two days a week, while he has no meal-times on three days a week. He asks if a whole day off weekly will meet the requirements of the Shops Act. [If his employer chooses to give him a whole day's holiday instead of a-half, that will serve the purpose of Section 1, but he must have three-quarters of an hour for dinner between 11.30 A.M. and 2.30 P.M., and half an hour for tea between 4 and 7 P.M. daily.]

Chemist (60/40).—A man, in attempting to board a fast-travelling tram-car at a spot which is not a recognised stopping-place, slips, and is dragged along by the car. The conductor rings the emergency bell, and the driver applies the brakes, stopping the car with a jerk, which throws B., a passenger, violently against the corner of the seat, injuring his ribs. Is the tramway company liable to pay B. compensation for his injuries? [The company would only be liable to pay B. compensation if the driver or conductor of the tram acted negligently, which, under the circumstances, would hardly appear to be the case.]

Rubrae (55/72).—(1) You, as the manager of a doctor's open shop, will be entitled to the facilities that are to be given under the Shops Act to assistants for meals and recreation. If the shop is closed on the weekly half-holiday of your town, but opens again in the evening, all the assistants must get a complete half-day, which may be either that day or another day. It is for your employer, and not the manager, to see that this is done. (2) Subject to the regulations which may be made under Section 15 (5, iii) of the National Insurance Act, a doctor keeping open shop in a town where registered chemists are in business may not supply medicines and medical and surgical appliances. (3) We are not aware of any powers under the Poor Law which prevent doctors supplying medicines to their parochial patients. The Local Government Boards of England and Scotland are, however, inclined to discourage such practice.

Mac (53/63).—(1) The position under the Shops Act, 1911, of an unqualified retail dealer in drugs and patent medicines is exactly the same as anybody else so far as the sale of medicines is concerned. There is no mention in the Act of chemists and druggists, qualified or unqualified, the exemption being in respect to the sale of medicines and medical and surgical appliances and sales made during closing hours in cases of illness. (2) If a qualified chemist joins with other shopkeepers in his district to close his shop, he must stick to any order made so far as the sale of anything except medicines and medical and surgical appliances is concerned, and no order can prevent him selling these commodities during closing hours. If the chemists of a district do not agree that a closing-order should be made in respect to them, they cannot be compelled to shut their shops on a general half-holiday, but they may not sell during that time any commodity which is customary stock-in-trade of a business subject to the closing-order. For example, if grocers are closed the chemist could not sell tea even if he stocked it, except in the case of illness.

A. F. C. (52/9).—(1) A shop is let on a three years' tenancy at an annual rent of 80*l.* The landlord's solicitors have charged the tenant 6*l.* for preparing the agreement. Subscriber wishes to know whether this charge is reasonable and recoverable at law. Under the agreement the tenant is liable to "do all usual repairs, fair wear and tear excepted." Who will be liable to repair a defective roof which allows the rain to come through, and a ceiling which has fallen in? Subscriber also asks whether the tenant can be compelled to accept a transfer of and maintain an "on-licence" which is attached to the premises, but of which no mention was made to the tenant until after he had signed the tenancy agreement. [The reasonableness of the solicitors' charges depends upon circumstances, but in any case the amount is not recoverable from the tenant unless he agreed to pay it. As to the repairs, the landlord is under no obligation to do them unless the agreement so provides, nor is the tenant, as the words "fair wear and tear excepted" impose a limit upon his liability to keep the premises in repair. But if the tenant wants the repairs done he will have to do them at his own expense. The tenant cannot be compelled to accept a transfer of the "on-licence" or to enter into an agreement in respect of it.]

Fogged (52/60).—(1) A chemist employs an assistant, who is also part-time traveller; he has hitherto had a fortnightly half-holiday. Can he be employed on the alternate half-holiday as a traveller still? [This depends upon the interpretation put upon the words "about the business of a shop" in Section 1 of the Shops Act. It has been held that "about" has not the same meaning as "in," and the phrase "in or about a shop" is used in the Shop Hours Act, 1892. If "about" in the new Act refers to locality, and has not the wider meaning of anything pertaining to the business, it would appear that the existing arrangement between the chemist and his assistant can be continued, but as a shop-assistant he must get a half-holiday.] (2) A chemist employs one assistant, who, after May 1, has a half-holiday by the Act. The chemist possibly having to dispense on the half-holiday, can he, in the event of sickness or during his summer holiday, call in his assistant to take duty? [There is nothing in the Act to exonerate the employer from depriving the assistant of his half-holiday.] (3) Must an assistant have his half-holiday on the same day every week? [The occupier of a shop will be required to exhibit in his shop a notice stating the day of the week on which his assistants are not employed after half-past one o'clock, and he may fix different days for different shop-assistants. It is not clear whether, having made, say, Smith's day Wednesday and Brown's Thursday, these can or cannot be changed, but this will be made clear probably when the regulations are issued.]

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We do not as a rule repeat information which has been given in this section during the past twelve months, as it occupies space which can be more profitably utilised for other information. In such cases the numbers are mentioned, and if querists cannot refer to these they may obtain the numbers from the "C. & D." Office at the published prices, usually 6*d.*

We do not undertake to analyse and report upon proprietary articles, and when samples are sent particulars should be supplied to us as to their origin, what they are, what they are used for and how.

J. O. (52/31).—Questions such as yours we do not reply to in this column.

W. W. & Co. (34/1).—SKIN-TABLET.—See *C. & D.*, January 15, 1910, index folio 96, or "Pharmaceutical Formulas."

O. & O. (31/71).—COUGH-POWDERS FOR HORSES.—In the formula given in the *C. & D.*, January 27, index folio 174, the amounts of arsenic and antim. potass. tart. were transposed in printing. The formula should read as follows:

Pulv. fol. aconiti ...	...	...	5vj.
Ac. arseniosi ...	...	...	5ss.
Antim. potass. tart. ...	...	...	5ij.
Pulv. anisi ...	...	...	3ij.

Misce et divide in pulveres vj. Signe: Give one each night in the food.

The maximum dose of arsenic for a horse is 10 grains.

G. T. (52/57).—The window-display with obscured glass in which there were peep-holes was described in the *C. & D.*, July 29, 1911, p. 169.

Ebor (52/30).—The soluble essence of ginger made by McGrath's process, described in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," p. 268, is good and should suit your purpose.

Jubar (32/46).—PIG-MEAL.—The amount of calcium phosphate administered to pigs is not material, as only a small amount can be absorbed. The point is that lime salts should be administered, and calcium phosphate is the best form. Some add powdered oyster-shell to the pig-meal.

Jersey (33/31).—EASTON'S SYRUP.—The trouble of the deposit and discoloration of this syrup is less frequently experienced now than formerly. The syrup was for years the subject of a controversy which was summarised by Mr. R. Wight in a paper before the British Pharmaceutical Conference in 1893 (*C. & D.*, August 19, 1893), when an improved formula was brought forward.

K. M. B. (54/42).—(1) TESTING LUBRICATING OILS.—This is explained in most books on oils, a suitable one for your purpose being Hurst's "Lubricating Oils, Fats, and Greases" (Scott Greenwood, 12s. 6*d.*). (2) THICK BLACK HARNESS-OIL.—The simplest form is prepared by mixing 4 oz. of ivory-black with a gallon of neatsfoot oil, or by colouring the oil with aniline-black. There are, however, various cheaper forms, such as the following:

Turpentine substitute ...	...	...	3 pints
Soft paraffin ...	...	...	1 lb.
Tallow ...	...	...	1 lb.
Neatsfoot oil ...	...	...	1 pint
Bone-black ...	...	...	2 oz.

Melt the tallow and soft paraffin together, remove from the source of heat, and add the turpentine substitute, finally rubbing down the bone-black with part of the mixture and adding to the bulk.

F. J. F. (57/71).—GREATER CELANDINE.—The chopped-herb which your customer says is used for making an eyewash consists chiefly of the herb greater celandine (*Chelidonium majus*, L.), with some extraneous matter. The juice of this plant has been used for treating opacity of the cornea, and the herb has a popular reputation as a treatment for eye-troubles. We do not give opinions regarding the therapeutic value of drugs.

We hope to print next week other replies in type.

Retrospect of Fifty Years Ago.

Reprinted from "The Chemist and Druggist," February 15, 1862.

The British Pharmacopœia.

"When will 'The British Pharmacopœia' be published?" is a question constantly being asked. The necessarily vague and unsatisfactory replies we are compelled to make induce us to present the following statement of facts drawn from the published minutes of the Medical Council:

On the 24th of November, 1858, the following committee was appointed to prepare and publish "The British Pharmacopœia" with all convenient speed: Dr. Christison, Sir J. Clark, Bart., Dr. Apjohn, Dr. Williams, Mr. Nussey, Dr. Thomas Watson, Mr. Green, Mr. Syme, Dr. Andrew Wood, Dr. Leet, with power to add to their number; Dr. Christison to be convener, etc. "Resolution 5 of the Minutes.—That a sum of 500*l.* be voted by the General Council from the registration-fees of existing practitioners, in order to defray the cost of preparing the Pharmacopœia for printing.—Carried." Dr. Christison, at the meeting of Council, in 1859, on presenting the report of the committee, begins by saying that the "committee commenced operations near the end of December"; and his concluding remarks are:

"Since the Convocation (English, Irish, and Scotch) met in the beginning of May, the sub-committees having completed a considerable amount of work of detail, the list of the various articles of the *Materia Medica* has been agreed on and arranged, and many of the groups of the preparations are now almost completed."